

'BUY BRITISH' CRUSADE URGED BY CBI CHIEF

By ROLAND GRIBBEN Business Correspondent

A NATIONAL crusade with a "buy British" theme to reduce imports and create jobs is urged today by Sir Terence Beckett, director-general of the Confederation of British Industry.

Sir Terence calls on CBI members in a New Year message to join in the crusade to reverse the trade deficit in manufactured goods.

He said: "The crusade must involve all our companies and buying agencies, not just those in the retail trade."

"They must go more than half way towards showing potential British suppliers the profits and jobs that could be gained."

"The stakes are high. Growing unemployment could undermine the business we have open to us and provide more jobs."

'No compromises'

Sir Terence said: "We must ensure that our shops and stores are filled with British-made products. No compromise can be made on product appeal, quality, price, availability or after sales service."

Some big retail groups have already given a lead in working closely with British manufacturers to ensure that the products they sell are what the customers really want."

Sir Terence said that for the first time in history imports of manufactured goods are exceeding exports. This was the main reason why unemployment was standing at more than three million.

The national crusade was needed to drive home the message that "our prosperity as a nation depends on our ability to make and sell the kind of goods and services that people want, at prices they are prepared to pay."

Fall in business confidence halts

By Our Business Correspondent

THE DECLINE in business confidence about economic prospects has been halted the Institute of Directors says in a report today.

The institute's business opinion survey covering a sample of 200 members, 75 per cent. of them either chairmen or managing directors, shows

JANUARY NIGHT SKY



MERCURY reaches greatest elongation on the 3rd, when it will be 23 deg west of the Sun and 93 million miles from the Earth. It is very far south of the celestial equator and in consequence is only 8 deg high, nearly due south-east, at 7.30 a.m., about half an hour before sunrise, very faint at magnitude -0.3.

VENUS is at greatest elongation on the 22nd, when it will be 47 deg east of the Sun and 64 million miles from the Earth. It is now rapidly coming up from low southern declination and is high in the western evening sky soon after sunset, wonderfully brilliant at magnitude -4.4.

Early in the month it sets in the south-west at 7.30 p.m. and towards the end at 9 p.m. due west, four hours after the Sun. On the evening of the 24th Venus will be seen to the right of Mars above the crescent Moon, presenting a splendid spectacle.

MARS is also now moving up towards the celestial equator and is visible in the south-west until about 6.30 p.m. throughout the month as it moves 21 deg eastwards among the faint stars of Aquarius. It is not very bright at magnitude 1.0.

On the evening of the 24th Mars joins Venus and the crescent Moon to form an interesting trio, as mentioned above.

JUPITER comes into conjunction on the 14th, when it will be 570 million miles from the Earth on the far side of the Sun. It makes its next appearance low in the early morning skies of February.

SATURN is now easily visible in the south-east up to about an hour before sunrise, and towards the end of the month it rises at 2.30 a.m. It is easily recognisable by its steady yellowish light, magnitude 0.6.

On the morning of the 16th Saturn will be seen a little to the left of the decreaser Moon and a little higher.

At 5 p.m. on the 22nd the extremely slender crescent Moon, only 38 hours old, will be visible to keen eyes low in the south-west.

Algo will be at minimum brightness at 6 a.m. on the 3rd, 2.45 a.m. on the 6th, 11.30 p.m. on the 8th, 8.30 p.m. on the 11th, 4.30 a.m. on the 26th, 1.15 a.m. on the 29th, and 10.15 p.m. on the 31st. On the first few nights of January the Quadrantid meteors are due, appearing to emanate from the constellation of Bootes and reaching an expected maximum of 80 an hour on the 3rd. Quadrantids are a quadrant meteor shower against a wall for observing the transit of stars, was small region of this part of the sky designated a constellation by the eminent French astronomer Lacaille in 1752 to be used in the compilation of his important star catalogue.

It was dropped from subsequent atlases, just as was his

Firms 'pay price' for axeing jobs

By Our Industrial Correspondent

FIRMS which tried to cut costs by reducing manpower in the early stages of the recession are now paying the price by having to introduce costly and inefficient overtime working, says a Trades Union Congress report published today.

The TUC Progress Report, part of its campaign for reduced working hours, says there was a significant increase in both the number of workers having to work overtime and in the number of hours worked.

Some 52.5 per cent of male manual workers undertook regular overtime in the 12 months up to April compared with 49.8 per cent in 1983. The hours worked as overtime averaged 9.6 per week compared to 9.3 a week in 1983.

For non-manual males, the average was 6.4 hours a week compared with 6.2 in 1983 worked by 20.3 per cent of employees compared with 19.2 per cent in 1983.

The proportion of women manual workers on overtime rose from 19.1 per cent last year to 21 per cent in early 1984 and they averaged 6.2 hours a week compared with 6 hours in 1983.

Short-sighted

"A large part of the overtime increase is a result of pre-recession management decisions to cut costs by reducing manpower," says the TUC.

"The TUC has consistently pointed out that this is a very narrow and short-sighted policy even on economic grounds. Skilled workers are very difficult to replace."

"Added to the cost of unemployment, which is an indirect burden on the working population as well as a direct one on the unemployed, is another—the cost of overtime. The maintenance of work teams on greatly reduced numbers would have been a better long-term strategy to cut costs."

In the period since July, the report adds, 23 agreements for reductions in working hours and 32 agreements on longer holidays have been reported to the TUC.

More companies are also introducing or improving provisions for pre-retirement leave.

DISBAND JOB AGENCY CALL

The Government should disband its job-finding agency for unemployed professional and managerial executives, the Institute of Directors says today.

A report urged that Professional and Executive Recruitment be wound up and its commercial role taken over by private employment agencies.

THE chart represents the sky as seen from London at 11 p.m. at the beginning of the month, 10 p.m. in the middle, and 9 p.m. at the end. The positions of the stars at other times can be found from the charts, for they rise two hours earlier each month. Thus the appearance of the sky at 9 p.m. at the beginning of January is identical with that at the beginning of the month, with the exception of the Moon, which at the beginning of December is at 11 p.m. To use the chart, hold it vertically with 'Eastern Horizon' at the bottom, facing east, and so on. The slippable area represents the Milky Way. All times given are Greenwich Mean Time. Readers are recommended to keep these notes for reference.

other constellation Felis which he begged Bode to put in his map in 1789 because he loved cats.

That there are cats neither in the charted sky nor in the Bible has long been recognised by discerning people. As an astonishing omission, Beautiful Melinda, watching the writing of these words, shows no resentment "as she silently expresses the mystical link between Earth and Heaven which all felines have."

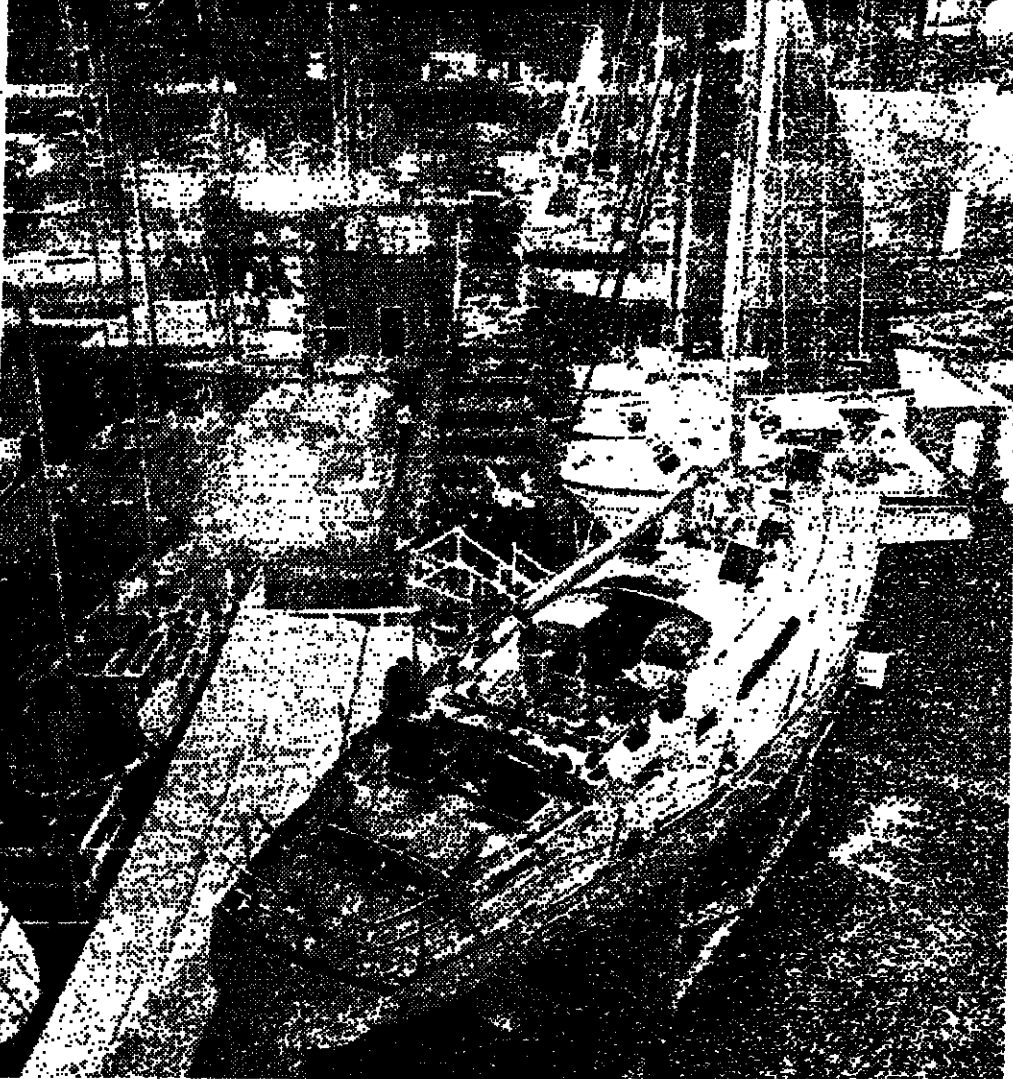
From the 18th to the 22nd there is no Moon in the night sky and there are approximately ten hours of real darkness in which to watch the brighter stars rise successively in the east. The procession is led by Betelgeuse, Rigel and the Twins, followed by Procyon and Sirius. Regulus appears at about 8 p.m., Arc-turus around midnight, Vega two hours later, and Altair at 6 a.m.

Well might this glorious pageant prompt the words of Giovanni Marini (1688-1623):

Resplendent sparks of the first fire In which the beauty we admire, And light of those elements rays The uncreated stars displays.

J.L.W.

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH map of the northern sky for every night of the year is available through booksellers, price £1.85 or £2.20 post and packing. Department SN, 135 Fleet Street, E.C4 or Wilky Grove, Manchester.



The Nicholson 58ft sloop-rigged sailing cruiser which, with a price tag of £420,000, makes it the largest and most expensive exhibit at the International Boat Show, opening at Earls Court on Thursday.

Gallup Poll

British hopes higher for the New Year

THE British people are approaching the New Year with a slightly more optimistic outlook than they held 12 months ago. In a 50-country survey of prospects for 1985 the British are in 17th position. Last year Britain was 20th.

This is the main finding of a special survey conducted by members of Gallup International for THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.

Representative cross-sections of the adult population in 30 countries were asked: "So far as you are concerned, do you think that 1985 will be better or worse than 1984?"

The replies are shown in the table where a "+" indicates a lead of optimists over pessimists and "-" indicates the reverse:

South Korea	+46
United States	+41
Australia	+39
Argentina	+35
Greece	+27
Brazil	+27
Canada	+25
Uruguay	+23
Norway	+18
Japan	+15
Italy	+14
Denmark	+13
West Germany	+13
S. Africa (whites)	+13
Spain	+11
Sweden	+11
Britain	+1
Netherlands	-2
Austria	-4
Costa Rica	-14
Switzerland	-14
Ireland	-19
Philippines	-20
Luxembourg	-22
France	-26
Peru	-32
Colombia	-34
Finland	-36
Belgium	-39
Bolivia	-57

So far as the British are concerned, the main worries are that the coming year will see rising prices, increased unemployment and more industrial disputes.

A majority—53 per cent—expect 1985 to be a year of economic difficulty, with only 14 per cent taking an optimistic view.

The public is also pessimistic about employment prospects, with 60 per cent expecting unemployment to increase next year.

Almost one in two—48 per cent—also think that 1985 will be a year of strikes and industrial disputes, while 20 per cent think the industrial scene will be peaceful.

Tax rise expected

The public is more evenly divided on the level of taxes next year. One in three, 35 per cent, think taxes will rise; 31 per cent think they will fall; and 28 per cent expect them to stay at their current level.

A pessimistic view is taken of international relations in 1985, though not to the same degree as a year ago. Twice as many people, 47 per cent, think the year will be a troubled one with much international discord, as think it will be peaceful (23 per cent).

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FOUR PUPS RESCUED

Four 10-week-old cross-terrier puppies found dumped in a polythene bag in a field at Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, were recovering yesterday at an RSPCA shelter in Radcliffe on Trent.

Boys' suicides up

MORE young men but fewer young girls are committing suicide, according to figures disclosed yesterday by the Samaritans.

The number of young people turning to the organisation for help is rising. Some complain of worry and depression over examinations, but the Samaritans regard this complaint as more usually a distress signal indicating difficulties at home.

The increased suicide rate among boys under 20 is based on a study of statistics for England and Wales comparing the three years 1973-75 with 1981-83.

The number of suicides among boys rose from 153 in the first three-year period to 260 in the second. But the figure for girls dropped from 106 for 1973-75 to 84 for 1981-83.

Neither Mr David Evans, general secretary of the Samaritans, nor another senior Samaritan, Mr Rex Cannon, could explain the differences.

"It is always dangerous to hypothesise on reasons for such an increase among boys, one including unemployment, without really knowing," said Mr Cannon.

This year the number of first time callers to the Samaritans went up by nearly 10,000 from 518,000 the previous year to 528,000 and they included an increase in the number of young callers.

Protesters force re-think of N-waste dumping strategy

By OUR BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT

MR JENKIN, Environment Secretary, is reviewing his strategy for radio-active waste disposal after setbacks to plans to develop new onshore dumps and resume off-shore disposal.

The Environment Department is believed to be preparing to abandon proposals to use a former ICI mine at Billingham quayside, Cleveland, as a storage depot for intermediate level waste.

The scheme has been strongly opposed by the company—which has refused experts permission to go down the mine—local inhabitants and environmental groups.

There is also strong opposition to developing a second site at Elstow, Bedfordshire, where it was proposed to dig a deep trench to bury waste from the C.E.G.B. nuclear power stations.

Mr Jenkin has ordered a fresh review of options to try to find acceptable solutions. One includes using oil-drilling techniques to dump waste thousands of feet under the bed of the North Sea.

Companies which have carried out detailed plans to use the wells to store waste, have made presentations to the Environment Department.

Limited options

Mr Jenkin accepts that any land-based site, however remote, will attract considerable opposition but his options are limited.

Government hopes of resuming dumping of low-level waste in concrete-lined containers gut in the Atlantic have suffered a setback as a result of a report from an independent body that dumping posed no dangers, as long as the waste was buried under fresh investigations have been made.

The off-shore dumping was halted last year after the National Union of Seamen ordered a review in an effort to avert fears.

Most radioactive waste is currently stored at nuclear installations.

BT faces a battle on mobile phone service

By ROLAND GRIBBEN Business Correspondent

BRITISH Telecom is gearing up to meet two new challenges as Government liberalisation of the telecommunications business enters a fresh phase.

The company will lose its monopoly over providing the first telephone in a home from tomorrow and faces stiff competition later in the month with the new mobile telephone service.

The loss of the telephone monopoly will provide the growing number of "telephone shops" with the chance of extra sales and give subscribers the prospect of a reduction in rental.

Householders wanting to trade in their existing phone and buy a model either from Telecom or one of the telephone shops will be entitled to a rental cut from £15.35 a quarter to £12.40.

But the bigger battle is expected in the cellular radio mobile telephone service, where Telecom and its partner, Securicor, are facing competition from Racal, the defence equipment supplier.

Telecom's Cellnet service is planning to cost £100 million by the end of next year, and Racal has earmarked a similar expenditure of around £200 million to complete a national network.

There is a £60 connection charge, quarterly subscription of £75 and the cost of calls at peak times anywhere in Britain will be 25p a minute, down to 8p at weekends.

Racal which has linked up with the Automobile Association to sell its range is offering two mobile telephones, costing around £1,275. The connection charge will be £50 and there is a £12.50 monthly service charge.

Scarman's community policing becomes law

By TERENCE SHAW Legal Correspondent

PROVISIONS of the 1984 Police and Criminal Evidence Act requiring chief constables to make arrangements for obtaining the views of their communities on policing and their co-operation in the prevention of crime, come into force tomorrow.

Recommended by Lord Scarman in his report after the Brixton riots, they are the first parts of the Act to come into force.

The statutory framework for introducing duty solicitor schemes in police stations and under local Acts to stop and search persons and vehicles for stolen goods also come into force.

Most of the important provisions of the controversial Act which clarify and in some areas extend police powers are not expected to be implemented until January 1985 because of the need for detailed police training.

But the Government plans to bring forward to March 1 the establishment of the new Police Complaints Authority, headed by Sir Cecil Clothier, and the introduction of new police disciplinary procedures.

As existing local police powers

SALES-RISE AS WHISKY 'LAKE' SINKS

By JOHN PETTY Commercial Correspondent

SCOTCH whisky, a key export industry, has ended four years of declining sales and its prospects are "brighter than for years," according to a survey today.

Even in recession, the industry has been earning £260 million a year from exports. In the home market, sales are equal to the combined sales of gin, vodka, rum and brandy.

Alan S. Gray, whisky industry analyst for brokers Campbell, Neill & Co., in his annual survey of the industry, forecasts a modest recovery in 1985, but the outlook is "much more encouraging" for 1986.

"We are at last beginning to see the bottom of the whisky lake," said Mr Ivan Straker, chairman of Seagram U.K.

Vast stocks of unsold whisky forced most distillers to cut back to 35 per cent of capacity. Many distilleries are closing down, a devastating blow to the industry.

Some distillers are now starting to increase production, but most agree with Mr Straker that it will take a year to 18 months to be sure the recovery is real.

Demand for Scotch is rising in Italy and France, as well as in Britain. But the "whisky lake" still holds 2,744 million litres of alcohol, which is enough to meet demand for over eight years.

Sales from Britain slumped from £225 million in 1979 to £144 million in 1983, as a result of a 1983 tax rise of more than £2 a bottle during his years as Chancellor.

NOELE GORDON IN HOSPITAL

By Our Television Correspondent

NOELE GORDON, the popular television presenter, is being treated for a chest infection at a hospital in Birmingham.

KICKING UP A STORM

Despite protest, a new village of 200 houses is being built in the village of Bacton.

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ES RISE
WHISKY
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CHIN PUTY
Correspondent
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HOMES TO SELL AS PEKING BENDS MARX

By HUGH DAVIES in Peking

CHINA's flexible interpretation of Marxist-Leninism approached a new milestone yesterday. All workers in Peking were told they can purchase their flats.

The choice is to continue paying a ridiculously low rent of about five pence per square metre of floor space a month or buy the premises outright at £100 a square metre.

Mortgage terms being offered by the municipal government are astonishing. Two-thirds of the price will be available through a state subsidy, and the remainder can be paid off by instalments spread over ten years.

However, what is deemed as "better quality" housing must be paid for in total by the buyer, an official announcement said.

Home sales have been allowed in the capital since 1982, but only to Chinese living overseas who pay for them in foreign currencies.

Until now the inhabitants of Peking have been allocated homes by their work units or local housing administration. With a population of more than nine million, the city is terribly overcrowded.

Cycling to escape
On Sunday, the Chinese day of rest, the streets are crowded with people cycling aimlessly simply to escape their cramped living conditions and the inevitable social friction as newlyweds are forced to spend years with in-laws.

Individual ownership was political heresy during Mao Tse-tung's Cultural Revolution. But Peking now joins places like Shanghai, in the industrial north-east, in the owner-occupied scheme, or the so-called "pinch of capitalism" that China's leader Deng Xiaoping is adding to his doctrinal shift away from orthodox Marxism.

Controversy in the West, sparked by a People's Daily commentary over just how radical the shift is, was answered at the weekend by a leading theorist, Yu Guangyuan, a former director of the Institute of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Tse-tung thought in Peking.

The official newspaper had stressed that Karl Marx had been dead 101 years and nobody could expect his writings to solve all of today's problems. To frame actual life in all its rich variety within the context of certain of these could only impede historical progress.

Worried by what he believed were naive interpretations in the West of China's political philosophy, the Peking regime put forward Yu at a foreign correspondents' lunch to explain the actual situation.

He emphasised that Marx's basic principles still underpinned Chinese theory but failed to provide practical answers to some major economic issues.

He added: "The major problem that classical Marxism sought to solve was that of Socialist revolution. But the prime problem we wish to solve is that of Socialist construction."

Western diplomats have remained cautious in their reading of the current political wind in China. For ideologues who came of age as Red Guards hounding "capitalist roaders" are still a force in China's 40-million strong Communist party, especially within the ranks of the military.

Remarkable changes
However, remarkable things are happening in China.

Taxi drivers, who clean their cars outside the Jian Guo Men (People's Republic of China) came of age as Red Guards hounding "capitalist roaders" are still a force in China's 40-million strong Communist party, especially within the ranks of the military.

Another unimaginable event 12 months ago was the admission of Chinese to western hotels in the capital.

Now local people crowd into the lounges every Sunday to have their photographs taken alongside fountains. Then they lunch in the coffee-shops before crowding gaggle-eyed in shops once exclusively open to foreigners.

The Lido Hotel, Peking, has spent £4 million on the construction of a 20-lane tennis bowling alley that is as modern as any I have been in the United States. But at almost £2 a game, it is, at the moment, way beyond the pocket of the Chinese who earn an average of £30 a month in the city.

Latest wonder
In Southern China the pace of change is even faster. Just after the opening of the Garden Hotel in Canton last month, I had to stand in a long line of Chinese as we queued to see the city's latest wonder—a revolving restaurant.

The prices were sky-high even by Western standards but the crowds kept coming.

The enormous implications of the new line on Marxist theory cannot be underestimated.

In putting a Chinese face to Marx, the leadership is attempting to return to the country's deepest sources of strength—the Chinese people's uncanny talent, displayed over millennia, at producing, saving and providing for their own.

Police inquiry after unmarked car deaths

By T. A. SANDROCK Crime Correspondent

NEW ways of identifying an unmarked police car as a suspect being chased are to be studied by police chiefs following a crash which killed two Bristol policemen in the early hours of Saturday.



PC Peter Deans



PC Jonathan Stapley

NOELE GORDON IN HOSPITAL

By Our Television Staff
Nole Gordon, former star of television's "Crossroads", is being treated for shingles at the private Nuffield Hospital, Birmingham, where she has been receiving chemotherapy after a second operation for cancer in September.

The hospital said yesterday that Miss Gordon, 52, had been admitted at Christmas "for a rest".

CHUCKING UP A SPINKE
Despite protests from residents that it will create a nuisance, a pinner has been given the go-ahead in the village of Beccles, Norfolk.

Consideration will be given to a wider use of magnetic "stick-on" flashing blue roof lights of the type used in America.

But these have not proved satisfactory at high speeds, slipping on the car roof or falling off completely. At present they are used on senior officers' staff cars in emergencies and by unmarked police cars stationary at the scene of an incident.

An inquiry into the deaths of PC Peter Deans, 25, and PC Jonathan Stapley, 27, has been started by Avon and Somerset Police. The two officers were in plain clothes and in an unmarked car when they killed and hit a tree.

The two officers had gone to question a driver sitting in a parked car in the Hotwells area of Bristol but they could not identify themselves with their warrant cards as the motorist drove away.

Hard frost
"Driving conditions were hazardous with hard frost and the officers' car failed to negotiate a turn," a police spokesman said yesterday.

The man chased was later identified and has been cleared of any blame. He thought the two men approaching him were robbers. Police are satisfied with his statement.

A special committee of the Association of Chief Police Officers regularly reviews the subject of police chases. Various ideas have been tried out to identify unmarked cars including "pop-up" signs with the word "Police" located inside the car at the rear.

But the problem is that these ideas work only if the chased vehicle is passed. Police chiefs believe the best method of stopping a suspect car is to radio in and ask for uniformed officers in marked police vehicles to set up a road block ahead of the chase.

A substantial number of unmarked police cars have sirens fitted to be used in chases as identification and to warn the driver being chased.

سكان لندن



Zola Budd getting a congratulatory kiss from her Swiss friend Cornelia Buerki after winning the eight kilometre road race in Zurich yesterday. Miss Buerki was second and Charlotte Teske (right), of West Germany, came third.

Bad cheques punishment for sailors

By DESMOND WETTERN Naval Correspondent

A NEW punishment—stoppage of cheques—has been added to the Navy's more traditional ones such as "stoppage of leave" and extra cleaning duties.

Sailors are paid by monthly direct credit to their banks by HMS Contention, the pay and records centre at Gosport, and can cash cheques with their ship's supply officers.

But such cheques sometimes "bounce" and after a warning a sailor who continues to present worthless cheques may face loss of cashing facilities until he can show he is no longer seriously in debt.

"The problem is that some men, quite at home operating equipment worth millions, are totally at sea when it comes to the workings of bank accounts with standing orders, direct debits, mortgage premiums and the like," the supply officer of a frigate said.

He estimated that about 10 per cent, from a crew of some 250, were seriously in debt "but fortunately in extreme cases I can still pay a man in cash."

Help available

He felt that the banks were partly to blame as they tended to "bounce" some cheques made out to the ship before those made out to creditors ashore.

Sometimes creditors even write to ships demanding debts be deducted by the supply officer from a man's pay. This was "something the Navy will not do—after all, no civilian employer would do so."

In cases of genuine hardship help is usually forthcoming from organisations like the Royal Naval Benevolent Trust.

A man with a query on his pay can seek advice from his ship's supply officer, but under new Defence Ministry rules, all pay records are to be centralised at Gosport. This may mean delays of several weeks in getting problems sorted out among the crews of ships overseas.

2 ACCUSED OF DESECRATING DUKE'S GRAVE

Two men, one from London and one from Coventry, are to appear before Northampton magistrates today charged over the desecration of Boxing Day of the Duke of Beaufort's grave in Badminton.

The two, both 21, were arrested in an overnight raid on houses in North London and Hertfordshire. The two have been charged with the theft of a cross and criminal damage.

Two others, including a woman, have been given bail by police at Staplehill, Bristol, close to the Duke's family home at Badminton, pending further inquiries. A fifth person has been released.

SCOTLAND YARD 'GANGBUSTER' DUE TO RETIRE

By Our Crime Correspondent
Cdr Frank Cater, 55, known as the "Gangbuster", is expected to retire from the Metropolitan Police next month after 32 years service. He has been offered a post with Securicor.

He is head of Scotland Yard's Central Robbery Squad, whose cases have recently included the £7 million Security Express robbery in London and the £26 million bullion raid at Brink's-Mat depot near Heathrow.

Cdr Cater earned his nickname from the special squad set up to smash the activities of the Kray and Richardson gang in the 1960s. Cdr William Taylor, 37, has been nominated to succeed Cdr Cater on Feb. 4.

DERBY ORGANISER LEAVES £1.3m

Maj. Peter Merton Beckwith-Smith, of Bishopstone House, Salisbury, Wiltshire, who was responsible for running the Derby for 20 years while Clerk of the Course at Epsom, left £1,300,888 net (£1,323,424 gross) in his will, published yesterday. He died on Sept. 15, aged 63.

Latest Wills—P10

Winning Zola Budd faces fresh rows

By CHRISTOPHER MUNNION in Johannesburg

ZOLA BUDD ran her way back into international athletics, and more controversy, yesterday by winning an eight kilometre road race in Zurich against strong European opposition.

The 18-year-old track star demonstrated her talent had not been diminished by the traumatic episode at the Los Angeles Olympics when she collided with Mary Decker or by her return to a deeply divided family in South Africa.

But Miss Budd is to fly into London this week for what are expected to be tough meetings between her South African business managers and officials of the Amateur Athletic Association.

At a Zurich press conference before yesterday's race, Mr Momborg made an impassioned plea for "understanding" of the young athlete's emotional state.

"Zola still does not know what she wants to do. But she certainly does not want a repeat of all the seclusion and secrecy of earlier this year."

He said he believed Miss Budd had made a terrible mistake in signing a contract with a London newspaper and thought she should not have competed in the Olympics.

Doctors use thalidomide on 50 patients

By Dr KENNETH HUTCHIN Medical Consultant

THALIDOMIDE, which caused thousands of severe birth deformities, is in use again after being withdrawn from the British market 23 years ago.

In the early 1960s thalidomide caused about 10,000 birth deformities in babies in West Germany. Of these, 5,000 survive, many with appalling defects. In Britain about 275 deformed babies out of 500 live births to women who had taken thalidomide during pregnancy survived.

An article in the current issue of the LANCET reports that thalidomide has been given to 50 patients with painful, severe recurrent ulceration of the mouth and genital organs.

Effected cures
Doctors at University Hospital, Nottingham, reported that thalidomide effected cures in cases which failed to respond to other treatment.

They have used the drug for this condition for the past two years. No pregnancies occurred during this treatment.

The authors stressed the need for adequate contraceptive measures to prevent pregnancy occurring in patients taking thalidomide.

In the cases of deformity which resulted 25 years ago, the damage was done during the early stages of pregnancy.

MAN CHARGED WITH MURDER

By Our Crime Correspondent

A man was charged yesterday with the murder of Miss Deirdre Sainsbury, 29, whose naked body was found on a golf course at Denham, Buckinghamshire, on Dec. 25. He will appear at Beaconsfield magistrates court today.

Police did not release the man's name or any other details. He was arrested on Saturday and was questioned at Amersham police station.

The Daily Telegraph, Monday, December 31, 1984 3

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JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
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NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	In addition there were 1,337,553 prizes worth from £50 to £10,000. The total value of the pay-out to Premium Bond holders in 1984 was £116,935,400. In 1985 there will be more prizes and more prize money. We expect to be paying out over 1,800,000 prizes, so you'll have a better chance of winning. Good luck from ERNIE!		
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GANDHI LIKELY TO DEPEND ON YOUNG CABINET

By DAVID GRAVES in New Delhi

MR RAJIV GANDHI will be sworn in again as India's Prime Minister today following his historic election win and is expected to announce the first portfolios in his reconstructed Cabinet.

But first he must undergo the formality of being elected leader of the Congress (I) Parliamentary party when it meets in celebration this morning.

Later after being sworn in by President Zail Singh he will step out on the testing and potentially dangerous task of governing India for the next five years.

Commentators expected yesterday that the 40-year-old Prime Minister is likely to put the emphasis on younger ministers to match his undertaking of a more dynamic government.

All the ministers will have no hint of ever having been involved in corruption in any way. This follows Mr Gandhi's election promises in which he guaranteed a "clean and efficient" administration.

At the weekend Mr Gandhi said his first task would be to further strengthen unity, maintain complete communal harmony and ensure a fair deal for the minorities and weaker sections of the community.

Top priority

His top priority would be a solution of the crisis in the Punjab, the northern Sikh state in which extremists have been waging an insurgency campaign for a separate state which has claimed hundreds of lives.

Until the Punjab question is solved he will also live under the constant shadow of assassination, which has led to him being afforded the toughest ever round-the-clock security protection.

Mr Gandhi declared: "We have some plan to find a solution, but it would not be prudent for me to reveal it now."

His determination to maintain communal harmony will be measured against the bloody backdrop which has seen more people killed in inter-communal violence and related security operations during the last five years than during all the preceding years since independence in 1947.

Some 12,000 people have been killed, most of them in Tripura, Assam, Punjab and Delhi.

For the first time the people of Assam and the Punjab were excluded from the general election because of the security situation which had led to an unprecedented alienation of millions of people in the north-east and north-west.

Their leaders have already called upon Mr Gandhi to initiate immediate remedies to regularise the situation.

The Prime Minister also reiterated that the foreign policy of the new government would "very substantially be the same" as that followed by

State of parties

Late last night the state of the parties, with 1980 figures in brackets was: Congress (I) 395 (552); Telugu Desam 28 (did not run); Communist, Marxist 22 (38); Anna Dravida Munnetra 12 (2); Janata 10 (31); Communist 6 (11); Dalit Majdoor 3 (41); Bharatiya Janata 2 (did not run); others 24 (54).

Six seats were still undecided and elections for 34 others postponed.

his mother and by himself during the election.

After being given such a strong mandate in the election many commentators emphasised that Mr Gandhi will be able to launch any fresh initiative, both at home or abroad, knowing he has the strength and overwhelming support of the majority of the electorate.

What caused the unprecedented Congress (I) landslide was being intensely debated throughout India yesterday. The most popular conclusion was that there was simply no single answer.

The Opposition campaign of a coalition government certainly backed and India's teeming millions voted overwhelmingly not to hand over the reins of power to a conglomerate of leading factions.

Besides, many political observers pointed out that there was a marked departure from the traditional patterns of votes being cast on communal and caste lines. Contrary to all pre-poll expectations India's 85 million Muslims also voted in large numbers for the Congress (I).

There was also a marked Hindu reaction in the vast Hindi-speaking heartland in the north and western states to the recent events in the Punjab and assassination of Mrs Gandhi. Another major factor was said to have been the unprecedented number of women who turned out to vote.

In his reaction to the opposition rout, Mr Chandra Shekhar, president of the Janata party who himself lost his seat in Parliament, said: "To my mind, the Indian electorate decided the day Mrs Gandhi was assassinated which way it was going to vote."

Editorial Comment—P12

BANGLADESH POLL

By Our Dhaka Correspondent

The President of Bangladesh, Lieut-Gen. Ershad, said yesterday he intended to hold parliamentary elections in April and challenged opposition parties to participate in the polls if they were not afraid to do so.

The Prime Minister also reiterated that the foreign policy of the new government would "very substantially be the same" as that followed by

Threat feared as opposition is annihilated

By Our Staff Correspondent in New Delhi

THE Congress (I) victory in India's general election not only gave the ruling party a record number of seats in Parliament but almost annihilated the Opposition.

Only seven years ago India's millions voted into power an opposition coalition led by the Janata party which ruled until 1980. Last week they nearly annihilated the major national opposition parties.

Most of the opposition leaders lost their seats in the biggest electoral rout India had ever witnessed and which left the non-Congress (I) parties with only 107 seats of the 508 which went to the polls.

The results led the pro-Government HINDUSTAN TIMES to caution yesterday that the result placed an added responsibility on the Congress (I).

"Without an opposition worth the name to keep in check, the ruling party will have to ensure that its untrammelled power does not breed arrogance. A viable opposition after all is a necessary and desirable adjunct in a democratic polity."

The Janata party, which contested 207 seats, only won 10, and lost from Parliament its two top leaders, Mr Chandra Shekhar, president and Mr George Fernandes, secretary-general.

In Karnataka, where it controlled the State Assembly, the Janata lost 24 of the 28 seats to the Congress (I) which prompted the resignation of Mr Ramakrishna Hegde, Chief Minister, who recommended the dissolution of the Assembly.

The Bharatiya Janata party, which fielded the largest number of opposition candidates of the 14-man team are Lord Cockfield and Mr Stanley Clinton Davis, both former Junior Trade Ministers. They replace Mr Christopher Tugendhat and Mr Ivor Richard.

The Commission is a kind of EEC executive body. It makes policy proposals and, once they are approved, administers them. But it has only limited powers of decision making.

Individual commissions can leave their mark on Community Affairs. The Roy Jenkins regime of 1976-80 is credited with raising the Commission's political authority. The Gaston Thorn Commission's last ending is generally regarded, in contrast, as indecisive and ineffective.

Shift of focus

Nevertheless, the past four years have seen some important gains for Community unity, even if they mostly came in the last few months. The new Budget deal set up last June at Fontainebleau for instance should ensure an end—at least for some years—to the perennial bickering over Britain's budget deficit.

It also paves the way for an increase in income to the Community from 1986 thus averting the possibility of the withering of initiative for want of cash.

State to sue for Bhopal victims

By BALRAM TANDON in New Delhi

THE Madhya Pradesh state government yesterday decided to sue the multi-national Union Carbide company in Indian and American courts for the deaths through criminal negligence of more than 2,500 people and injuries to thousands more.

Mr Arjun Singh, the Chief Minister, did not reveal the figure of compensation the government will seek from Union Carbide for the Bhopal gas plant disaster.

But he appealed to individuals not to sign separate agreements with lawyers in Bhopal or from abroad.

DOCTORS DISPEL EYE FEARS

By Our Medical Consultant

Eye specialists who flew to India after the Bhopal disaster caused by the escape of methyl isocyanate gas which killed 2,500 people consider that permanent eye damage to some victims who survived may not have resulted.

Dr Neil Anderson of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Mr Malcolm Kerr Muir of Moorfields Eye Hospital, London, report on their examinations of victims in the current issue of THE LANCET. They examined both people who had been exposed to the gas and others from distant communities.

Shipment returned

Our New York Staff writes: A 15-ton shipment of methyl isocyanate gas, the chemical that caused the Bhopal disaster, was safely returned to an American pesticide plant in Woodbine, Georgia, at the weekend after the Brazilian government refused to accept it.

MARCOS MISSING AT CEREMONY

The Philippines' prime minister Mr Cesar Virata, laid a wreath in honour of the national hero, Jose Rizal, in Manila yesterday, standing in for President Marcos, who has not made a public appearance outside the presidential palace for nearly two months.

Marcos, 67, long rumoured to be suffering from an incurable kidney disease, went into a three-week medical seclusion last month, but the palace said he only had "flu".—A.P.



A relative of one of the hundreds of people kidnapped during the civil war in the Lebanon defiantly manning a barricade of blazing tyres in Beirut yesterday when protesters blocked the crossing points between the Christian and Moslem sectors for the fourth consecutive day.

All change as EEC enters new phase

By ALAN OSBORN Common Market Correspondent

A NEW four-year cycle in the Common Market development begins this week with the taking office of a new EEC Commission under the presidency of M. Jacques Delors, the former French finance minister.

At the same time, the Presidency of the EEC Council of Ministers also changes this week from Ireland to Italy, which will hold the responsibility for the first six months of 1985.

The two new British members of the 14-man team are Lord Cockfield and Mr Stanley Clinton Davis, both former Junior Trade Ministers. They replace Mr Christopher Tugendhat and Mr Ivor Richard.

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Sudan troops kill 83 in 'outlaw camp' raid

By OUR KHARTOUM CORRESPONDENT

SUDANESE troops had killed 85 rebels and wounded many others in Southern Sudan, the official news agency said in Khartoum yesterday. A "camp of outlaws" near Bentiu was attacked last Friday.

Casualties on the government side were three dead and five wounded. Fighting was still going on to clear the Upper Nile area of the outlaws, the statement said.

On Friday the agency quoted the Army's general command as saying that Government troops killed 600 rebels in fierce fighting that took place at the Jodel area of Southern Sudan three days earlier.

Rebels who call themselves the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement and other organisations opposed to President Nimeiri's government have been waging a guerrilla war in Southern Sudan, attacking river transport and kidnapping foreign workers at development projects.

Nimeiri has accused foreign governments, notably Libya and Communist Ethiopia, of stirring up unrest in the South to topple his government.

In 1972, three years after he came to power, President Nimeiri succeeded in putting an end to a 17-year civil war by signing the famous Addis Ababa accord which gave the South self autonomy.

Last Tuesday he sent Christmas greetings to Sudanese Christians and urged rebels to participate in a national dialogue with the government.

S. SOLDIER KILLED

An American sergeant was killed and three others injured on Saturday night when a lorry collided with a military vehicle near Irbid, 50 miles east of Istanbul. The dead man was named as Steven Logan.—A.P.

U.S. READY FOR TWIN TALKS

By FRANK TAYLOR in Washington

AMERICA is prepared to hold two sets of arms control negotiations dealing with both offensive and defensive weapons, but will not halt space-based anti-missile research, according to officials in Washington.

This forms the basis for the talks in Geneva next week between Mr Schultz, Secretary of State, and Mr Gromyko his Soviet counterpart.

Written recommendations drawn up by the National Security Council in consultation with the State Department and the Pentagon, were flown to Mr Reagan in California at the weekend.

Russians' wish

The officials said that the proposals would show that the United States was ready to be more flexible on procedural issues.

But the Americans seem solid in their stand regarding a space-based missile defence shield, known as the Strategic Defence Initiative. Research into it will continue although eventual deployment could be a matter for negotiation with Moscow.

The Russians would ideally like to see a formal halt to this research as well as a moratorium on anti-satellite weapons testing as a condition of broad new arms negotiations.

FEUD SETTLED

Reagans' 'all in love'

AN BROOD in Los Angeles writes: With an embarrassing family feud apparently settled, President and Mrs Reagan were in Palm Springs yesterday for the annual gathering of his "Kitchen Cabinet."

These were the wealthy businessmen who were instrumental in first persuading Mr Reagan to run for public office as Governor of California nearly 20 years ago. They have remained his backers ever since.

The reunion is at the palatial home of Mr Walter Annenberg, former Ambassador to London. The Reagans have been guests at his lavish New Year parties for the last 18 years.

The Reagans flew to Palm Springs from Los Angeles following a three-hour peace meeting with the 12-year-old son, Michael, 39, who was adopted during Mr Reagan's marriage to the actress Jane Wyman.

Cruise tests in Canada

By Our Toronto Correspondent

American Cruise missiles, without nuclear warheads, will fly across Canada for the first time within the next three months as part of tests to determine whether they can reach targets in Russia.

The Reagan administration asked for the tests over Canada because terrain and climatic conditions are similar to those in much of Russia. It wants to find out whether snow, thick forests and extremely low temperatures will affect the aim of the ground-hugging missiles.

SYRIA DEATH CLAIM

By JOHN BULLOCK Diplomatic Staff

MR YASSER ARAFAT, the Palestinian leader, yesterday accused Syria of being behind the murder of a former West Bank Mayor in Amman the previous day.

Mr Fahd al Qawasm, who was Mayor of Hebron, was deported from the occupied West Bank by Israel in 1980. Since then he had lived in Amman, and last month was elected a member of the Executive Council of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the "Cabinet" of the P.L.O.

Qawasm was killed on Saturday by two gunmen who attacked him outside his house on Jebel Amman, a fashionable residential area of the Jordanian capital. They shot him three times, after throwing a grenade which failed to explode.

Arafat, who flew to Amman yesterday, roundly charged the Damascus regime with complicity in the murder.

He said: "Let the hiring killers and the rulers of Damascus know that they will not be able to destroy the will and determination of our people or to stop the Palestinian revolution."

PRETORIA BANS BLACK U.S. TV REPORTER

South Africa has refused visas for American television journalist Ed Bradley and five crew members to cover Sen. Edward Kennedy's 10-day visit which began on Saturday. It was reported in Johannesburg yesterday.

Mr Bradley is black and his team were working for the CBS "60 Minutes" weekly news programme. The show recently carried a generally positive look at the white-minority government's tentative moves away from strict race segregation.

That programme drew criticism from anti-apartheid campaigners in America. Now the denial of visas is seen as a move to forestall "60 Minutes" from producing a second feature to counter the criticism.—A.P.

Ethiopian royal family still held in jail

By R. BARRY O'BRIEN in Addis Ababa

TEN members of the Ethiopian Royal family jailed by the Marxist military regime since the 1974 Revolution are preparing to spend their 10th Christmas, celebrated by Ethiopians on Jan. 7, in prison in Addis Ababa.

They are the Emperor's only surviving daughter, a daughter-in-law, three grandsons, four granddaughters and another woman relative.

They are being held in the capital's central prison with between 5,000 and 6,000 other prisoners, many of them political detainees.

Christmas is later in Ethiopia than in the West because of the largely Christian Orthodox country under Marxist rule still follows the old Eastern Orthodox Church calendar.

The ten are the Emperor's closest surviving relations after his eldest son, the Crown Prince and his family, who live in London. The Crown Prince's eldest daughter, Princess Eligayehu, died in prison in Addis Ababa in 1977.

Hope dashed

Western embassies had expected the ten to be freed in an amnesty marking the 10th anniversary of the revolution on Sept. 12. But none was among the 95 detainees released.

The Ambassadors of Britain, Belgium, the Netherlands and Sweden, have continually raised their case with the Ethiopian authorities, but without response.

"They never give any justification for holding them," a Western diplomat said. "They just say that the protecting them from the people."

The eldest of the prisoners, Princess Tenagnew Work, second and only surviving daughter of Haile Selassie, will be 72 on Jan. 30. The Emperor, who ruled Ethiopia from 1930 until the 1974 revolution, died in prison in Addis Ababa in 1975.

Princess Tenagnew is being held with four daughters of her first marriage, in 1924, to Ras Desta Damtew, Commander-in-Chief of the Ethiopian Armies during the Italian invasion, who was shot by the Italians in 1957.

The daughters are Princess Aida Desta, 56; Princess Hirut (Ruth) Maryam Desta, 54; Princess Sabla Wangel Desta, 55; and Princess Sofya Desta, 51.

Princess Tenagnew's two sons of her marriage to Ras Desta are both dead. The elder, Amba, died in 1945; the younger, Ras Adm Iskender Desta, was Imperial Ethiopian Navy, was

shot by the revolutionaries in Addis Ababa in 1974.

Princess Aida was married in 1946 to Prince Ras Mangasha Sejum, governor of the rebellious Tigre Province from 1961 until the 1974 revolution. There are five children of the marriage, now in their 50s.

Princess Sara Makonnen, 56, is the widow of the late Emperor's second and favourite son, Prince Makonnen, Duke of Harar, who was educated at St Christopher's School, Batsford, Wellington College and died in a motor accident in 1957. She is being held with three of their five sons.

The prisoner princes are her first and second sons, Prince Paulos Wossen Sagad Makonnen, 37, and Prince Mikal Makonnen, and fifth son, Prince Baeda Maryam Makonnen, 27.

The tenth Royal prisoner is Princess Zuriash Worq, 54, a grand-daughter of the Emperor Menen and widow of Prince Assefer Kassa, a fourth cousin of the late Emperor, a wealthy landowner and a former Governor of Eritrea, who was shot by the revolutionaries in 1974.

The central prison is a large, heavily-guarded compound of buildings and the prisoners are believed by foreign diplomats to include many political detainees.

The three sons of Prince Makonnen are kept in the prison's high security wing, known by its Amharic name of Alem Belagene, translated as "I have had enough of the world."

The seven women are in the general women's section, where inmates include common criminals. The women are housed in wards, each prisoners having a standard sleeping space of about two feet by six feet.

The Royal detainees are said to be better off than many prisoners because a group of friends and supporters outside supplement their basic diet of bread and tea.

12 KILLED IN SNOWSTORMS

Nine days of snowstorms have killed at least 12 people in northern Japan. Most of the victims, in Niigata on the Japan Sea coast, had fallen while clearing snow from roofs.

Thousands of New Year holiday travellers were stranded yesterday when more than 40 express trains Niigata and surrounding areas had to be cancelled because of the storm.—Reuter.

Argentina tops league of human rights

By TONY ALLEN-MILLS in New York

ARGENTINA, accused four years ago of being the most repressive country in the western hemisphere, has become "the most vigilant defender of human rights in Latin America," according to an annual freedom survey.

The Council of Hemispheric Affairs placed President Alfonsín's democratic regime at the head of its list of Central and South American countries respecting human rights.

"Given Argentina's horrendous recent history as the hemisphere's worst human rights violator, the country has made the most extraordinary return to the ranks of democratic societies of any hemisphere nation in recent history," said the council, a private Washington-based research group.

Following Senator Alfonsín's inauguration in December 1983, the ranks of democracy were said to have "virtually ceased."

Trade unions, political parties, the press and the arts all emerged with "renewed vitality."

Slow justice

But the council noted that despite the democratic government's obvious intention to bring to justice those responsible for the bloody years of repression, progress has been slow.

"Several leading human rights groups remain dissatisfied... they charge that Alfonsín has wavered in the face of threats and intimidating gestures by the military," the survey said.

However, continuing pressure from the military and other right-wingers makes discretion a "reasonable strategy to follow," the survey added.

Just how Alfonsín maintains this delicate balance between a population hungry for a settlement on one hand, and a resistant and brooding military on the other, is a matter to be closely scrutinised in the coming years.

Apart from Argentina, other countries with positive human rights records in 1983 were said to be Belize, Venezuela, Ecuador and the English-speaking Caribbean.

But severe abuses continued in Guatemala where the had failed to cover up continuing brutality by the armed forces against the country's civilian population.

ASTIZ WINS MILITARY HEARING

By CRISTINA BONASEGNA in Buenos Aires

A CIVILIAN judge in Argentina handling a case against Lt Col Alfredo Astiz on charges of abducting and wounding a missing Swedish girl in 1977, has ruled that the case should be transferred to military courts.

The ruling follows a month-long battle over competence between the prosecution and the defence in the case against the Argentine Navy officer.

Federal Judge Miguel del Castillo, who is investigating the disappearance of a Swedish national, Dagmar Hagelin, under the former military regime, unexpectedly ruled that he was not competent to handle the case.

He made the decision under controversial "forms" to the military code of justice, introduced by President Raul Alfonsín almost a year ago.

Tribunal backing

The Armed Forces and the highest military tribunal in the country have openly backed Astiz, claiming that the middle-ranking officer was merely following orders by his superiors in the regime's drive against terrorism in the mid and late seventies.

Astiz has been accused by eye witnesses of the abduction, shooting Miss Hagelin, then 17, in a case of mistaken identity and of taking her to a "secret" detention centre where she was last seen alive a few days later.

HEMINGWAY INJURED

Margaux Hemingway, the American actress and model, was in hospital recuperating from a ski accident in which she broke her pelvis, a spokesman at Innsbruck University Clinic said yesterday.—A.P.

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THE ARTS

BALLET / La Fille, par excellence

IT WAS EVIDENT that great care had been taken with the production and casting of Frederick Ashton's "La Fille Mal Gardée" performed on Saturday afternoon by the Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet at the company did five justice to the ballet, dancing and acting with delightful vitality.

David Yow, making his debut as the hero Colas, looked a trifle out of his element, coming right at the beginning and created for a dancer with a very strong technique (David Blair), it put Yow under great strain. But he still managed to soar through his leaps, and from then on he danced and acted with assurance, showing excellent feeling for the character of this engaging young farmer.

It was not a debut for Sandra Madgwick, taking the other

leading role of Lise; but she projected rather weakly in the opening scene. She came into her own in the scene in the fields, projecting far more strongly and giving individuality to her interpretation by her sharp attack whenever she took up a hard position. In the big solo mime scene (interpolated with the help of Karavina from the ballet) she looked charming, and she interacted very well with both her beloved Colas and her mother, the Widow Simone.

David Bintley keeps enriching his interpretation of the widow, and now it is the best I have ever seen. Every detail, including his make-up, helps to establish his interpretation, and shows his familiarity with the traditions of the pantomime. His expertise in log dancing and tap dancing is also very clear in his big solo dance.

Peter Wright, director of the

Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet, informs me that I was mistaken in describing as "perverse" his timing of the steps of the "Sun" solo as performed by Nicola Katrak in "Coppelia" by the SWRB on Boxing Day.

According to him, this solo was taught and rehearsed by Julia Farron, who danced it in the Sadler's Wells Ballet production mounted by Sergeyev; moreover Pamela May, who also danced the solo in the same production, confirms that the choreography and timing are now exactly as she danced it.

My own memory conflicts with that of Miss Farron and Miss May; but I expect they are right, since they were so closely associated with the Sergeyev production.

Fernau Hall

MUSIC / Chilingirian

Nutcracker Number 3

THE seasonal over-supply of "The Nutcracker" is to some extent counteracted by the variety of production ideas on show. London Festival Ballet's staging at the Festival Hall (by Ronald Hynd) is totally unlike the new Royal Ballet version at Covent Garden or the one by Scottish Ballet televised on Christmas Day.

Hynd's dance arrangements are no more than workmanlike, but his narrative skill carries the production through the ballet so that they become interesting personalities to an audience.

In Friday's performance, for example, Peter Schaffius, whose positive approach as the company's new artistic director—probably the most stimulating aspect of the current British ballet scene—is complemented by his splendid qualities as a star dancer, was on stage from the beginning as Drosselmeyer's modest nephew.

He and Mary McKendry,

deputising for an injured Elisabeth Terabust in the comparable complete role of Louise, reached the grand pas de deux by way of enjoyable mock battles and romantic duets.

Hynd's Stahlbaums and their friends are badly bred social climbers and the comic business is all too broad. All the same, the concept does engender theatrical gusto—the action may lack subtlety but it is never soporific—and Terry Hayworth's Drosselmeyer is gleefully in control of its magical elements.

Mary McKendry has the right charm and sparkle for the ballet as well as considerable technical elegance, but Karen Gee was rather too artificially childlike as Clara and her dancing needs more variety of attack. Most of the other soloists were competent than brilliant; Matz Skoog, however, an excellent exception, produced buoyancy and brio in Fritz's jolly solos.

K. Sorley Walker

ART GALLERIES

MARRIOTT ART GALLERY, RAJIV GANDHI CENTRE, 100, ADELPHI, LONDON WC2N 6JH. Exhibition of paintings by the late Sir John Everett Millais, 1827-1896. Open from 10.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Admission free.

NATIONAL GALLERY, TRINITY SQUARE, LONDON EC2N 4NT. Exhibition of paintings by the late Sir John Everett Millais, 1827-1896. Open from 10.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Admission free.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, 100, WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2DY. Exhibition of paintings by the late Sir John Everett Millais, 1827-1896. Open from 10.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Admission free.

THE TATE GALLERY, MILNERS, SW1. Exhibition of paintings by the late Sir John Everett Millais, 1827-1896. Open from 10.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Admission free.

VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM, 9, CROMWELL ROAD, LONDON SW8 5RU. Exhibition of paintings by the late Sir John Everett Millais, 1827-1896. Open from 10.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Admission free.

WILLIAM DOUGLAS GALLERY, 100, WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2DY. Exhibition of paintings by the late Sir John Everett Millais, 1827-1896. Open from 10.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Admission free.

EDUCATION: JOHN IZBICKI

Lemons and heroes of the year

APPROPRIATELY, the 1984 Order of the Izbicki Lemon (OIL) and Top Izbicki Prize (TIP) nominations fall mainly in the political arena. In education, it has been a year which has, alas, more than echoed the forecasts made by George Orwell, with Government Ministers and local authority leaders taking on the composite Big Brother image.

Nominations for lemons came in thick and fast. There was, of course, Sir Keith Joseph himself who might have been tempted from his own Big Brother position had it not been for Big Sister. The list of misfortunes is a long one: first, he decided to allow parents to decide whether their children should be named or not by teachers.

Instead of tackling this particular oil bull by his decidedly blunt horns and shoulders, Sir Keith decided to do it by the horns of the other lemons, altogether as the rest of Europe has done, he produced instead a mish-mash that schools will find almost impossible to enact (but perhaps Parliament will decide to ignore this legislation when it comes to the vote).

Next, Sir Keith decided to give parents the authority on governing bodies. Again, as with caning, no

one but Sir Keith and a small number of hangers-on favour such a move. Everyone, including teachers and heads, would like to see parents having more choice and more say but the majority say I need hardly spell out the last of Sir Keith's major errors of judgment—over student grants and parental contributions to those grants.

It produced the first of a series of backbench revolts from which the Government is still reeling.

But Sir Keith was "saved" from being presented with my oil award because he ended the year with far more plusses than minuses: his fine speech at Sheffield last January produced a boost in education needed so desperately and made all educationists think for once. Other plus points include the decision to make RMI reports public, to set up a training centre for heads and senior school staff, and to scrap the Schools Council.

Other lemon nominations were Philip Merridale, leader of the Burnham Committee's management panel, whose stone-walling tactics led to a stalemate in negotiations and another protocol with teachers' strike affecting thousands of children.

Eric Armstrong, who chaired the arbitration panel on teachers' pay as

a result of that Burnham breakdown, also merits a lemon for taking a unilateral decision and coming up with a pay rise of 5.1 per cent, which, compared with the pay of other groups (police, Civil Service, doctors, engineers), was little short of an insult.

Another Minister deserving to have some of that lemon juice squeezed over him is Michael Heseltine who is not regarded as a hands-on Farzai figure by teachers at British service schools abroad. His cuts in the teachers' overseas allowances—cuts that average from £700 to £835 depending on whether the teacher is single or married—have created anger and disillusionment among those doing a highly competent job for forces' children. A letter I have just received from one headmaster of a service school said that his foreign service allowance had dropped from £2,850 a year to £2,600—a cut of £250. I cannot see Mr Heseltine accepting such a reduction of his ministerial salary.

Lemon plauds also to Brent, that London Borough, which wanted to scrap a poster because it showed a man and a woman dancing—instead of two men, two women—and because it apparently hinted at the abolition of Father Christmas because he is always male and white.

But this year's Oil goes to Councillor Fred Riddell, chairman of the Nottinghamshire education committee for being so neurotic about independent schools that he has ordered a stop to all children at those schools using local authority-run playing fields, swimming pools and orchestras. He has also tried, not once but three times to close a small nursery school, mainly it seems continuing to produce some excellent reports and a good deal of fearlessly about the visible damage now being done to schools as a result of false economies. Much of the credit must go to the comparatively new Senior Chief Inspector, Eric Bolton.

Three women are among the nominations: Mrs Christine Haggerty, for her continuing fight against local authority blindness to the needs of word-blindness, dyslexia. Even Sir Keith did not come to her aid, although she most represent the very type of parental power he wishes to see; Penelope Yaffe, general secretary of the Association of Career Teachers, for her continued attack upon the "treadles" among teachers who sport police badges in the classroom and attempt to indoctrinate children; and Christine Maher, who could neither read nor write at the age of 16, but who, at 46, runs the Plain English Campaign which tries to eliminate mumbo-jumbo and gobbledegook from books, brochures and official letters.

Near the top of the Tip Ray Honeyford, the Bradford headmaster, who has been victimised by a mixture of local authority councillors, parents and pressure groups for having spoken his mind in an article published in a Right-wing journal. He had said that in schools where blacks are in the overwhelming majority, the white pupil becomes the ethnic minority and the disadvantaged. Thanks to the sensible educationists on Bradford's council, Honeyford survived the onslaught and continues to run his school.

The other, sharing the Honeyford position, is Lawrence Nasser, the inner London comprehensive boys' school headmaster who preferred to resign from his own school's board of governors than kowtow to their whims. Such courage inside ILEA deserves recognition.

But the 1984 Tip is awarded to the man who did more than resign from his North London Polytechnic board of governors: David Macdonald, who cocked a snook at Frances Macmillan and gave a two-fingered salute to the entire band of ILEA cranks by taking retirement 11 years early because he believed in academic freedom and not in the fascism displayed by Left and Right alike.

He was asked to discipline a student idiotic enough to belong to and help run the National Front. He refused. It was the student's right to study, whatever his obnoxious views. By his action, Macdonald has restored some of the honour his polytechnic was in danger of losing.

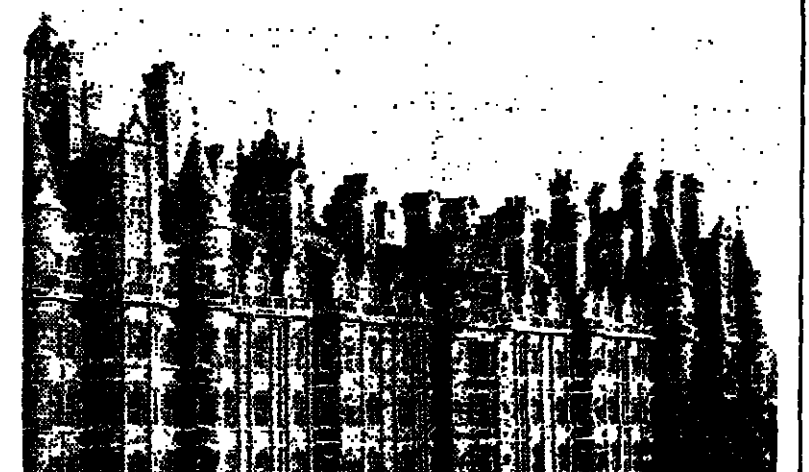
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS

THE National Council for Educational Standards, which evolved out of the series of Black Papers published in the 1960s and was born in 1972, is extremely upset with Sir Keith Joseph, who is on the programme to address its annual conference at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, next Sunday. The occasion, highlight of the three-day conference, had been planned for months.

Then, just before Christmas, Sir Keith cried off. He had to fly to New York immediately after speaking at the North of England education conference at Chester on Friday. Sorry, said all that, but Sir Keith has a daughter in New York and is flying off "for personal reasons."

The Education Secretary offered Bob Dunn, the Schools Minister, as a replacement at Cambridge. The offer was rejected. Instead, Prof. Brian Cox, dean of Manchester University arts faculty, the NCE's president and, along with Dr Rhodes Boyson, its founder, will speak, and is expected to throw diplomacy to the winds and delete not a single epithet.

Delegates, many of whom had booked places in order to hear Sir Keith (he had been a coup to get the Secretary of State), are going to be doubly disappointed. Because Sir Keith can only act very soft or liquidised foods, Sunday lunch had also been long planned. Instead of roast beef and Yorkshire, it is to be avocado pear, minced lamb with pureed veg, and chocolate mousse—unless Sidney Sussex has a last-minute change of heart.



Royal Holloway College, as was: now to be re-named Royal Holloway and Bedford New College.

ANOTHER big conference this week, apart from the North of England, will be the Association for Science Education at Keele University from Thursday to Monday. About 3,000 delegates are expected either as residents or visitors, to hear 57 lectures, 20 symposia and 70 hour-long talks and discussions.

Incidentally, more than half the 57 lectures are to be presented by members of the Keele academic staff. Sir George Porter, director of the Royal Institution and well known for his television lectures on science, will include in his presidential address advice to science teachers on how they can narrow the gap between the arts and sciences.

EDUCATIONISTS really do lack imagination, don't they? When London University decided to merge Bedford College and the magnificent Royal Holloway College (pictured here) by transferring the former from its Regents Park home to Egham, Surrey, one might have expected the result to bear a name that would trip lightly off the tongue.

Not so. It is to be called Royal Holloway and Bedford New College. Ian Nairn once described the RHC as "the most excellent building in the Home Counties: a source of amusement to westbound travellers on the A30." That it certainly is. But what a very silly name it has been given.

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FARMER'S DIARY

Natural goodness needs no dice

Why JAMES GLADSTONE refuses to play games with real farm life

FOR Christmas I was given a board game called Farming. Playing it is the agricultural equivalent of three years before the mast on a Newcastle-bound collier or a coach-tour vacation for a driver of the Number 19.

All kinds of things can happen to you in Farming. In addition to the predictable insecticide demands, crop failures and terrible prices, fowl pest hits the poultry, droughts succeed continual rain, turnip fly attacks, machinery breaks down, sheep die, sprays drift on to neighbour's fields, winter fodder runs out, your dog worries sheep, floods succeed blizzards, and bills pour in continuously.

Even when you do have a good harvest, only a small result in increased overtime payments. The glib reaction would be to say that the game mirrors real farm life and to a certain extent it does. A survey commissioned by the National Farmers' Union has shown that people outside agriculture think of farmers as being great moneybags, always complaining for no good reason. There is much truth in that as well.

It is certainly how the inventors of Farming see country life. "Run your own farm for a year," says the blurb on the box. "A new family game to test your skill! Keeping the bank happy!"

What is not mentioned on the box, nor by enough farmers, nor, I fear, as frequently as it should be in this diary, are the enormous pleasures of farm life, the great compensations for the endless cold war with the bank manager. Sometimes these pleasures are overwhelming. Writing in the Spectator before Christmas, P. J. Kavanagh said: "Gratitude, praise, is something we seldom show much of for some reason. We seem to prefer low spirits... but the need to praise exists."

On some recent mornings, after a night of rain, day begins with heavy clouds, grey-blue; these clear away and the sun shines on a bright, wet world, crows wings flash gold, seagulls look whiter than white and the green silage trailer on the horizon glintens; even the cows are so content they rest their steaming chins on each other's backs and half-close their eyes; there is a need to describe such mornings and that would be good, though it

There is nothing fictional about Davies, a character from my childhood, whose delight on a summer evening was to blast rocks from the fields with gelignite somehow acquired from the local quarry. I loved to go out with him, help him bore the hole (in just the geologically correct spot), smell the pink explosive, see the fuse lit and run furiously for the shelter of the nearest dyke while he blasted "warnings" on a referee's whistle. Wheeeeeee BOOM. The rattle of sharp granite slices. Silence.

When Davies took the trouble to travel to my father's funeral the lump in my throat was so choking that I could not even say thank you.

Nature and country people are not on the cards in Farming. Thankfully, they figure large in real life.

Not all friendly. The majority are complaints. Anger is your greatest stimulant to correspondence. I praise Harold Finter, people either ask in print why the National doesn't stage more foreign classics. John Osborne sends a card: "Because they are boring!" The woman director of "glimpsing unpoetic Shakespeare production—one of the comedies—accuses me of sexism and assures me that I should know how their heads in to Solihull."

An adored actress, "greatly distressed" by a too-pertinent comment, does not know how she will ever survive the week. An angry father has taken his children to a sophisticated revue satirising American showbiz biographies, and is after my blood because they did not understand all the jokes. And, of course, if one makes a slip—my hurry I once named Macduff for Banquo—schoolbags explode in triumphant condescension.

NOTEBOOK

ROY KERRIDGE

An odd practice

TRoubled by earache, I was recently prevailed upon to visit a doctor. This was to be my first visit to a G.P. since I had left school 25 years before. Entering the surgery, I was told to sit down, and the doctor, with a wild, glassy gleam in his eye, beamed ferociously and produced a wad of forms to fill in. He seemed fascinated to receive a new victim and determined to collect every detail of my life for his files.

I knew where I had seen that mad gleam before—on the face of a child guidance officer, one versed in psychiatric ideas. While I tried in vain to mention my ear, he hung my arm in a strait-jacket and called a nurse to take my blood pressure. Formalities out of the way, the medical examination began. "Do you drink? Do you smoke? Are you married?" Not much, no and no. "Have you any children?" "No, I told you I wasn't married."

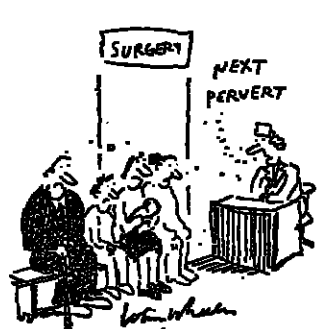
"What type of contraceptive do you use? Have you suffered from venereal disease?" "Doctor, it's my ear that's troubling me."

"Ah yes, inflamed," he said, with a cursory glance at my lughole, and wrote a prescription. "How do you have the nerve to ask people about contraceptives?" I asked, rising to leave.

At once he put on an expression of great significance. "Sit down," he said, "and I will tell you."

I sat down and waited. "Very often," he explained, "a patient is a homosexual or has some unusual sexual problem, or perversion. A simple question about contraceptives may lead him to unburdening his mind and telling me everything. Suicide can be averted that way. Just by a man-to-man talk. Today we believe in not only treating the patient's complaint, but treating his whole environment. I'm fascinated that it's the sexual questions that annoyed you. Some patients are annoyed when I ask them if they drink."

"I remember one patient answered 'no' to that question, although he was really an alcoholic. 'Doctor,' he told me later, 'you asking that question really changed



my life. When I got home, I poured all my bottled down the sink. As for asking you about children, I have many patients so I'm used to every kind of marital irregularity."

At that point, I made an excuse and left. Evidently the doctor was seriously infected by sociology, and spent his time gloating over the irregular whole environments in his files. Taking the yellow pills he prescribed, I became extremely ill, but recovered as soon as I had thrown them away. I then found that my ear was simply bugged up with wax, and an ear-dropper from a chemist cured me in no time.

Here are two questions for your files. Would it have been better if the doctor had concentrated on my complaint and left my whole environment alone? Or would I have been safer if he had ignored my complaint completely, and concentrated on my whole environment?

JULIAN CRITCHLEY campaigns to ban peace studies

CND's classroom battle

WHEN a director of education allows himself to write: "Children should be aware of their responsibility for world disarmament," he has unintentionally demonstrated what a scandal it is that local education authorities should be able to determine the curricula of State schools. For it is this type of thinking that sees nothing amiss with the political indoctrination of children through "Peace Studies" to the detriment of truth and national unity.

To judge from the self-advertisement of CND, it is making great strides in schools. Thus we read in the Tracoman, the organ of the NUT: "Peace studies are taught in 64 per cent of Labour authorities and 58 per cent of Conservative authorities." In fact these are only percentages of the total number of replies to a questionnaire to which more than two-thirds of Conservative-controlled local authorities did not reply. However, it is probably true that (unilateralist) "Peace Studies" are now part of the curriculum of many primary and secondary schools in Labour areas, especially in the north.

On the other hand, except in the University of Bradford, whose post-graduate school of "Peace Studies" is the fons et origo of the CND movement, there has been little impact. Far on the syllabus for public examination.

The Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board says that it has not experienced any pressure from schools to prepare a syllabus. The University of London Schools Examination

Department has "Peace Studies" combined with a compulsory study of historical methods and sources. The specimen papers on World Peace and Co-operation in the 20th century are of an unbelievable antiquity, being an old League of Nations paper combined with a United Nations paper circa 1945—a difficult setting for CND propaganda.

On the other hand the Joint Matriculation Board Examinations Council does provide ample opportunity for peace propaganda. In the A/O level on Science, Technology and Society there is an optional topic "Science and War: the atomic bomb" where: "Candidates should be able to express their views on unilateral and multilateral disarmament."

There is also a study of war in the O-level syllabus in Integrated Humanities, which includes biological, chemical and nuclear warfare and, under the heading Prevention and Control of War, "popular movements, pacifists, conscientious objectors, CND, humanists and religious attitudes."

An essential guide to all this is "Peace Studies: A Critical Survey" by Baroness Cox and Roger Scruton. Starting with the "Peace Studies" papers put out by teachers and graduate students of the Bradford University school of that name, they say: "They show a marked bias towards unilateralism, piecemeal and whimsical approach to major problems of strategy, logic and moral and political philosophy and an indifference towards the geopolitical situation which has caused the present crisis... The principal subjects of staff research publications are pacifism, peace

movements and how to support them, non-violent action as strategy and, where it is a question of political analysis, areas of conflict within the Western bloc."

There is a postgraduate course leading to a Master of Arts degree. Among the themes of this course... there is no disciplined history of modern Europe and no extended political analysis of the 'socialist States' in general or the Soviet Union in particular. So much for the academic background of the Peace Movement propagated in the schools by militant pressure groups.

Charitable behaviour is often the introduction to "Peace Studies," as in a Religious Education programme in Exeter: "Which do you prefer, swords or ploughshares? Destruction or development? Atom bombs or charity?"

One of the worst aspects of this emotional rampage is the way in which it is splitting the nation. To judge from the majority of university syllabuses and the movement of opinion among university students today, the better educated boys and girls from the sixth forms of the comprehensive and independent schools, are, for the most part, untouched by this mindless agitation. The less able majority, who suffer from political indoctrination in primary and secondary schools controlled by Labour local authorities, are in danger of growing up with a lasting bias against patriotism and a total ignorance of the world. For this reason I believe the time has come for something more effective than Sir Keith Joseph's mild rebuke of the "Babes against the Bomb."

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PLAYS AND PLAYERS

A package of mixed blessings

JOHN BARBER on the pleasures and frustrations of corresponding with readers

I HAVE MADE my New Year resolution—to answer readers' letters within a week. I doubt I shall keep it. I will try. I tend to wait a bit, and then dispatch a batch, cheering myself by punning on Ernest Hemingway as Merfing when he intones: "The will dissipate—like a fart." For the morning star brings many a misfire.

Not all friendly. The majority are complaints. Anger is your greatest stimulant to correspondence. I praise Harold Finter, people either ask in print why the National doesn't stage more foreign classics. John Osborne sends a card: "Because they are boring!" The woman director of "glimpsing unpoetic Shakespeare production—one of the comedies—accuses me of sexism and assures me that I should know how their heads in to Solihull."

An adored actress, "greatly distressed" by a too-pertinent comment, does not know how she will ever survive the week. An angry father has taken his children to a sophisticated revue satirising American showbiz biographies, and is after my blood because they did not understand all the jokes. And, of course, if one makes a slip—my hurry I once named Macduff for Banquo—schoolbags explode in triumphant condescension.

I never know if the soft answer turneth away wrath because virtually no one acknowledges a reply. A mother asked, charmingly, who published a useful theatre book she listed for her son, and on an impulse I sent her my copy. No reply. I am asked why theatres don't give seat numbers of tickets: a separate clerk takes the order, and checks half-hourly with the queue at staff dealing with the queue at the box office. No reply. Someone wants to know the Donmar Warehouse. In the Donmar Warehouse. I don't. I blandly pass on the information. An infuriated admirer of Alan Ayckbourn tells me I got the wrong wrong in my piece about one of his 16 "Intimate Exchanges" series. I check with the author, who sends me a script and says I was right.

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Men	Women				
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31	35	NA	4.40	6.60	8.80
32	36	NA	4.74	7.11	9.48
33	37	NA	5.12	7.68	10.24
34	38	NA	5.56	8.34	11.12
35	39	NA	6.08	9.12	12.16
36	40	NA	6.76	10.14	13.52
37	41	NA	7.42	11.13	14.84
38	42	NA	8.22	12.33	16.44
39	43	NA	9.20	13.80	18.40
40	44	£5.12	10.24	15.36	20.48
41	45	5.70	11.40	17.10	22.80
42	46	6.33	12.66	18.99	25.32
43	47	7.03	14.06	21.09	28.12
44	48	7.82	15.64	23.46	31.28
45	49	8.62	17.64	26.46	35.28
46		9.79	19.53	29.37	39.16
47		10.89	21.78	32.67	43.56
48		12.23	24.46	36.69	49.62
49		13.59	27.18	40.77	54.36

*Not available. The minimum number of units available at these ages is 1.

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Please tick YES or NO to each question below: YES NO

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(b) Do you engage in any hazardous occupation or activity (such as private aviation or deep-sea diving)? ☐ YES ☐ NO

(c) Has a proposal made to any insurance company on your life been declined, postponed, or accepted on special terms? ☐ YES ☐ NO

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I declare that I am in good health and that the statements made by me in connection with this application are accurate, complete and truthful, and shall form the basis of the contract of insurance. I consent to the Sun Alliance seeking information from any company to which a proposal has been made for insurance on my life and I authorise the giving of such information.

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Saying goodbye to the little black dress...



Above: Red lamé jumpsuit, its wide belt worn as a scarf. Also in turquoise, £85 from Simpsons, Piccadilly, W1. Belt, bag and shoes from Charles Jourdan.

By Ann Chubb

THE chicest party frocks this winter are far removed from the ubiquitous little black dresses that we have all been wearing for far too long. Instead, colour and glitter are the big new stories.

Suddenly, Bruce Oldfield, the ultimate designer of little black dresses, has filled the front of his Beauchamp Place shop with everything but black. Instead, wonderful slinky jersey numbers in violet, berry red, fuchsia or emerald green are featured together with matching feathered jackets and dyed-to-match satin slippers by Charles Jourdan.

And, if your party dress is not in a bright jewel colour like this, the chances are that it sparkles and glitters. One of Harvey Nichols' best-selling dresses is the American-designed silver sequined shift. Not cheap perhaps at £220 but wonderfully lightweight, crush-proof and packable — every socialite in New York owns one like it.

On similar lines, but very much cheaper, is the glitter shift from Fenwick which we picture. At just £34.95 this has the look but at a fraction of the price, but beware the glitter that it sheds in its wake: maybe a little hair-spray would act as a fixative.

Slinkiest of all, the deep red lamé jumpsuit with the décolleté neckline from Simpsons. You need to be slim and shapely for this one: we used the accompanying sash as a flattering long slim scarf and added a classy glitter belt as a contrast.

The best thing about glitter clothes like these is that they need little or nothing in the way of jewellery: good for jet-setters who like to travel without insurance hassles. Instead, add a glitter bow or a froth of veiling for the hair.

The very newest party accessory of all is a pair of black lace gloves. Gloves are back in a big way for the young who have never worn them before for anything but warmth. Meanwhile, new fashions are the stunning flower patterned ones that we picture here from Lanvin.

Glamour setting for our glamour clothes: Gleneagles hotel in Scotland which will also provide the setting for the BBC television's Hogmanay programme.



Above: The sequined silk shift that's the rage of New York — in silver, bronze, gold or grey on black, £220, by Kenar. Black lace gloves, £5.95, both from Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW1. Cocktail hat from a selection at Fenwick.



Left: Black glitter shift, £34.95 in sizes 10 to 14. Sparkly black net gloves, £1.50, all from Fenwick, New Bond Street, W1. Shoes from Charles Jourdan, Knightsbridge, SW1. Flower tights, £4.95, by Lanvin from Liberty.

Pictures by KENNETH MASON

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12" x 450" BATH TOWEL	£ 23.50 each	£ 23.65 each
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THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1984

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BRUSSELS CHANGEOVER

A NEW COMMON MARKET Commission takes office in Brussels this week against a background of renewed self-confidence in the EEC and a widespread feeling that a new phase in the Community's evolution is both due and possible. Rightly or wrongly, the Commission has few direct powers to affect the lives of the Community's 260 million citizens but it is, or should be, the motor of initiative and the link between policies approved by the Governments and those affected by them. A good Commission should be able to inspire faith in European ideals without raising hopes beyond what is politically realistic. A poor one can breed scepticism and indifference. The four-year Commission under the presidency of M. GASTON THORN now ending made heavy weather of its few achievements—notably over the budget—and will generally be thought something of a disappointment. Better things will be expected from the new team under M. JACQUES DELORS, partly because it will no longer have to wrestle with the tiresome British budget problem but more importantly perhaps because its composition promises a more practical and workmanlike answer to Community challenges.

Britain's members of the new 14-man team—Lord COCKFIELD and Mr STANLEY CLINTON DAVIS—seem well fitted by both background and temperament to strike the right note. They are both no-nonsense former trade men, versed in the complexities of EEC commerce with a keen sense of the vital need to create a genuine single market among the 10 member States. This, surely, must be the supreme objective of the Delors Commission once it has dealt with its legacy of budget and enlargement problems. For as long as the Community remains no more than a linkage of 10 separate market-places, each protected by differing technical fiscal and administrative regulations, it will remain at a serious disadvantage against America and Japan in the struggle for world trade.

This may strike some member Governments as too timid and prosaic an approach to the development of the Community. The new year will see the launching of a major debate on the role of the EEC institutions, the relationships between them and the member Governments and the extension of Community competence into such fields as security and defence. Many of the proposed innovations will be welcomed by Britain. But the Government does not share the enthusiasm of others for 'abandoning the national veto through the practice of majority voting. The new Commission's best chances of success seem to lie in pushing hard for liberalisation at the ground level rather than campaigning for institutional reforms that are frankly premature.

INDIA'S LANDSLIDE

MR RAJIV GANDHI's spectacular election victory has made Indian political history, underlined the maturity of India's democracy, and given him and his ruling Congress party a handsome mandate for change. It has also made, if not laboured, the point that although the concept of a dynasty has its critics, Indian voters are apparently content that another NEHRU will run the country. Mr GANDHI, young and politically unseasoned, won more decisively than ever did his mother or his grandfather with the Congress party taking more than 50 per cent. of the vote.

Several factors contributed to this astonishing landslide of which the so-called sympathy vote because of his mother's murder, and his "Mr Clean" image, were significant. Another was the failure, once again, of the opposition to unify their splintered ranks. Corrupt—although probably no worse than many politicians in the Congress party—selfish and discredited, the opposition has been obliterated which may or may not turn out to be sad and bad for India. But Mr GANDHI has been given a free hand.

Because he is still an enigma it remains to be seen whether Mr GANDHI is tough, and able, enough to continue cleaning up his party, and his Government, and the announcement of the new Cabinet today will provide some pointers. He has said his most important task was to work for national unity and to try for complete communal harmony after a year of truly terrible violence, and he is right to look first at the simmering cauldron of the Punjab. There Sikhs still live in doubt and fear, and Mr GANDHI, himself living under the shadow of assassination, is in a position to give them a much more generous and honest settlement than his mother would have offered.

There should, and could, also be a change for the better in India's relations with Pakistan. President ZIA (whose referendum confirming his intention to rule automatically for another five years was, by comparison, a fraud) has been quick with a message of congratulation. As a start, and for the wellbeing of the region, Mr GANDHI should turn down the anti-Pakistan rhetoric.

JUST DESERTS

EVERYONE AFFECTS TO BE BORED by Honours Lists and everyone reads them with fascination. It is not always clear with what wisdom the hierarchy of honours is arranged. Dive into a freezing canal and rescue a drowning child and be content with a British Empire Medal, strictly an Isthmian league honour. Give 15 years modest mediocre service as a backbench politician who never made the grade and suddenly you are Sir Algernon. However the present batch of honours have a subtle flavour.

It is absolutely right that Mr LEN MURRAY and Mr FRANK CHAPPEL should be joining the Lords on their retirement. Mr MURRAY, a clever, illusionless, perceptive man has never run the TUC because it is constitutionally not intended to be run. But all his instincts and his most serious advice have tended to the side of reason and civility. No one who watched his outstanding and uncharacteristically brusque main speech at the conference of 1983 will have any doubts about his political and industrial understanding. Mr FRANK CHAPPEL as democratically elected and re-elected master in his own union, the EFTU, has been wonderfully brave, and direct. He should be remembered not only for taking on the Left but for running the most modern, most efficient union in the country, one which does actually give its members a service.

The two appointments are important also because they signify a door kept open by the Government to the constitutional, democratic and humane wing of that movement. Mrs THATCHER has the wisdom to treat democratic unions and their leaders with proper honour.

COMMENTARY

T. E. Utley

ONE OF the axioms on which well brought-up Tories were nourished before the war was that, whatever foreign policy might be based on, it must not be based on bluff. It was used by those who defended "appeasement" to support the view that we must never utter any threat to Hitler or Mussolini which we were not prepared literally to carry out.

It was also used by those Tories who opposed "appeasement": their concern was to point out to the Left the grave error, moral and political, of demanding resistance to aggression while continuing to insist on unilateral disarmament or, at any rate, to be ambivalent about re-armament.

How the world has changed! For decades now, under Tory and Labour Governments alike, foreign policy has often seemed to have been based exclusively on bluff, and bluff converted into a grand theory. The theory is known as "mutually assured destruction." It consists in the proposition that if we and our allies are possessed of weapons which could cause havoc and homicide to the Russians on an unacceptable scale, they will never attack us even though they have the means of destroying us (the British) totally should we ever use a strategic nuclear bomb against them.

Would we ever run the risk of using such a bomb? The enormity of the bluff is increased by the readiness of many of those who defend the "deterrent strategy" to say publicly, or at any rate clearly to imply, that we never would—that this ultimate horror is preserved solely as a "deterrent" and not with any serious intention of ever deploying it.

Now I support the retention of the nuclear deterrent simply because I would be terrified of my wife at the prospect of leaving us and our allies totally stripped of any possibility of effective response to a Russian attack: but I cannot honestly say that I am free from moral doubts about the legitimacy of the policy and I certainly cannot say that I am free from doubts about its prudence.

I would have thought, therefore, that the entire British public, from Mrs Heseltine to Mrs Ruddock, would have fallen on their knees in gratitude to Mr Reagan and his scientists for proposing to try to invent a new sort of strategy which would enable us to destroy these vile weapons in space before an enemy can discharge them on us; and if, as has been suggested, the secrets of this defensive strategy could then be distributed to the enemy so that he would enjoy the same protection as we would, so much the better.

Of course, it may be that the proposal is technically impracticable (I would not know about that but neither I suspect, do most of those who vigorously oppose it). It is also true that if America (in the absence of the disarmament agreement, which everybody should want) were to start manufacturing these defensive devices, Russia would try to do the same and this would "escalate the arms race", but it is not likely to be escalated anyway, and much more dangerously.

No: it seems to me that the real reason (apart from the silly name which has been attached to it) why the "star wars" proposal has been regarded with such widespread horror is quite different: if the nuclear threat were to be neutralised or largely neutralised the West would face the permanent and costly necessity to maintain large conventional forces to offset Russia's military strength.

After the 1939-45 war, we all resolved that we would never again put domestic prosperity before military preparedness; but we nearly escaped from the dilemma by slipping into dependence on nuclear weapons which, at a relatively low cost, would enable us to go on pursuing our own pet utopias—whether the welfare utopia of the Left or the "never-had-it-so-good" capitalist paradise of the modern Tory party.

Selflessly, I always address my New Year resolutions to plans for the moral improvement of others, and my suggestion for the critical year about to begin is that everybody engaged in this nuclear controversy on either side should seriously examine his conscience on the precise point of what relationship exists between his views on the bomb and his wish either for lower taxation or more public welfare. Meanwhile, a very happy New Year to President Reagan!

WHEN A public figure, whether he be a cardinal or not, makes a public statement, he may properly be expected to have calculated its public consequences. Cardinal Thomas Fee's assertions last week that nothing could be achieved in Ulster until Mrs Thatcher had gone will have absolutely no effect on British politics; but it will make the task of improving relations between Dublin and London far harder, and it is bound to give vast encouragement to the IRA and weaken the support for constitutional nationalism in the North. What did it spring from? Unspeakable stupidity or malicious prejudice, or a combination of both.

RICHARD INGRAMS considers the hyping process

Fortunes arising from hot air

I WAS INTERESTED to see the other day in a publisher's catalogue a book described as a "best seller"—the really interesting thing being that the book had not yet been published.

One might be tempted in the circumstances to complain to the trades description people but for the horrible thought that it is nowadays possible to arrange best-sellerdom in advance of publication by means of what has become known as "hype."

The word, according to American Journalist Steven Aronson in his book of the same name, is of uncertain origin. According to some people it is derived from the hypodermic needle—the "hyped-up" becoming high, like drug addicts. Others maintain that the origin of the word is "hyperbole," the Greek for excess or exaggeration.

Aronson himself defines it as "the merchandising of a product, be it an object, a person or an idea—in an artificially engendered atmosphere of hysteria, in order to create a demand for it or to inflate such a demand as already exists."

Whatever its origins, most people would agree that there is such a phenomenon as hype and that they are daily made aware of it. The reason is an increasing amount of newspaper space or television and radio air time is now given over to promotion rather than reporting.

The man being interviewed is not in the studio because the producer thinks he will interest the public. He is there because he is opening in a new play, or has just published a book. It is all part of the hyping process, the process which aims to make people suspend their critical faculties and succumb to a mood of woody enthusiasm about whatever it is that is on offer.

I recall not long ago meeting a well-known theatre critic and asking him his honest opinion of a very bad but much-hyped farce which had been a hit in the West End. "It was a lousy play," he said, "but I gave it a good review."

That man was a victim of hype. He had been so influenced by the ballyhoo surrounding the production that he had lost his critical faculties.

Published by Vermilion, £5.95.



tion that he had suppressed his real feelings about it.

Sometimes to do so, one feels, would demand almost superhuman courage. Try to imagine saying that Mr Andrew Lloyd Webber's latest musical "Starlight Express" was by no means all that it had been cracked up to be. It would only be done by someone with the ingenueness of a man in the R. M. Bateman cartoon or the little boy who cried out that the emperor had no clothes.

The sad thing is that we are not only cowards but suckers, where hype is concerned. Some months ago I went with a group of friends to a Mayfair restaurant much mentioned in gossip columns and glossy magazines. To read about it, you would think that this was just about the best restaurant with the finest cuisine and the smartest clientele in London. I found the place noisy and full of executives, the food inadequate and expensive, the patron drunk and very aggressive. (I don't mention his name, incidentally, not from fear of a writ but because I know he would be delighted to have a further dollop of publicity on his plate.)

I was reminded of this incident reading Mr Aronson's section headed "Women who Rule the Game," which tells the story of Elaine Kaufman, proprietor of the most fashionable restaurant in New York, patronised by such names as Jackie Onassis, Liza Minelli and Leonard Bernstein.

Into her much-hyped bistro one dank February day came a woman described by Mr Aronson as a "dumpy of indeterminate social status," who was put at a table next to the kitchen door and well away from all the celebrities.

It turned out subsequently that she was the restaurant critic of the New York Times who wrote a damning critique referring, *inter alia*, to "mussels swimming in a broth that could have been pure salt water," re-heated clams and a "dilapidated women's wash-room with missing tiles and blistered plaster."

Miss Kaufman is only one in Mr Aronson's gallery of contempo-

rary Americans who, often with only minimal talent, have achieved fame and fortune by ruthless self-promotion. Perhaps the most extraordinary example is that of the advertising executive Peter Rogers who became a celebrity by persuading a number of other celebrities ranging from Brigitte Bardot to the fashionable Left-wing playwright Lillian Hellman to model for Blackglama minks under the slogan "What Becomes a Legend Most." Even a number of men like the opera singer Pavarotti became "legends" in exchange for a free fur coat.

In our smug British way we like to think that this sort of thing is typical of America.

But it takes an American like Mr Aronson to remind us that the most successful self-promoter of our day is an 81-year-old Hertfordshire housewife, Barbara Cartland.

Aronson can hardly conceal his admiration for the way in which this "Empress of Hype," as he calls her, has ruthlessly promoted herself and her family throughout her long life. Advised by Lord Beaverbrook early in her career to have a "platform"—a set of beliefs by which she could be identified—she also made the discovery that "charity has become a ladder with which to climb the social tree."

Now with three entries in the "Guinness Book of Records"—Most Books Written in a Year, World's Best Selling Author, Most Space in "Who's Who"—Miss Cartland has of course recently acquired another feather in her cap, one that must make her the envy of all American hype-artists—a connection, via the Princess of Wales's stepmother, with the Royal Family.

No wonder that business in all branches of the Cartland empire is booming. No more so than at the Spencer family seat of Althorp where, as Miss Cartland tells the author "my clever, clever daughter sells statuettes, glassware, matchboxes and raps-



whistles—all with a picture of Althorp on them."

Like Mr Aronson, one can only end up lost in admiration.

New blood for the House of Lords

ALMOST as a response to the new-found independence of the House of Lords, Mrs Thatcher has created four new life peers, none of whom could be described as conventional in their politics. She has also cannily avoided any narrow party appointment to the Upper House.

Frank Chapple, of course, himself a former Communist, challenged the Communist ballyhoo of the elections in the electricians' union and then led it into a new era as one of the most moderate unions in the country.

Len Murray, an old-fashioned Labour party man, courageously stood up to the militants in his last year of office. Mary Warnock, the new Mistress of Gorton, is under heavy fire from Tory back-benchers for her report on human embryo research and has never been regarded as a Conservative.

Only Nigel Vinson, the business-man founder of the "free market" Centre for Policy Studies fits the more conventional mould of Thatcher's appointments to the Lords. He started in business in a Nissan but in 1952, covering metal components with plastic—a technique which he perfected and which thus allows him to describe himself on his passport—as "inventor."

Bart not quite

IN RECEIVING the KBE, Edward de Caux, businessman and former chairman of the 1922 Committee, gains an award normally reserved for men of the cloth. Ecclesiastics are, of course, debarred from pre-facing their names with "Sir" alongside their style in last orders and the KBE is thus appropriate because they may use the initials after their name.

The one exception made to this rule in recent times came when a service was held in the Commons crypt to commemorate Sir Thomas More. Roman Catholics insisted that he was referred to on the order of service as a saint while some politicians stood out for the recording of his knighthood (plain, not a KBE). In the end he was referred to as St Thomas More, Kt.

Since the suspension of the awarding of hereditary honours by the 1964 Labour government, the KBE—the highest rank in the order of the British Empire—has also been regarded as a suitable Lord or Baronetcy. Thus Dr Cunn (or Sir Edward as he now becomes) can reckon that had Mrs Thatcher reinstated hereditary knighthoods as well as peerages, he would have become a baronet.

Young visitor

LORD YOUNG, the Minister without Portfolio, is to head a major trade delegation to China in the spring. But eyebrows have been raised in

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Whitehall over such a relatively inexperienced Cabinet Minister, with no departmental responsibility for the task of selling British goods in Peking.

One suggestion is that his overall responsibility for job creation provides too little meaty work for a man of his energies.

And with Norman Tebbit still recovering from his injuries, the Department of Trade and Industry is too stretched to send one of its own ministers.

Service included

BRITISH AIRWAYS, which recently commissioned the American company Landor to design its £2 million "new look," has been somewhat surprised by the techniques employed by the firm.

In the run-up to Christmas, two Landor executives took a senior B.A. man to a friendly lunch at Le Gavroche, which was fine—until a bill arrived at the airline's headquarters, not only for the meal but for the Landor men's time spent eating it.

There is, as they say, no such thing as a free lunch.

Lost and found

A STATUE once described as "one of the finest pieces of English sculpture," has been discovered behind the organ of the Albert Hall after a 100 year disappearance.

The masterpiece in marble, "Youth at the Stream," brought fame to its creator, John Henry Foley. It was commissioned by the Royal Horticultural Society at the request of its president, Prince Albert for its new gardens, now the site of the Science Museum—and somehow got lost when the society moved quarters in 1888.

Foley was a particular favourite of the Victorians, praised for his statues of John Hampden, Sir Charles Barry and Viscount Hardinge. He was honoured with a tomb in St Pauls.

The break in the tedious daily routine for Norman Tebbit and his associates in the Department of Trade and Industry was, I'm told, the telephone call from Peter Walker or a member of his personal staff inquiring about the progress being made by the Trade and Industry Secretary.

Apparently Tebbit, on hearing about each call, would wink at his nurses and say: "The cultures are gathering."

Welcome skeleton

MORE RESEARCH into Ronald Reagan's ancestry has disclosed that President Reagan is descended from a Scottish moonshiner—the outlawed double-strength whisky once hunted by the Excise-men.

Under Nancy Reagan's instruc-

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tions, the "Burke's Peerage" genealogist, Hugh Peskett, has been looking into the Scottish forebears of the President's mother. He discovered that Reagan's great-grandmother, Jane Blue, was a first cousin of the enterprising distiller from Kintyre.

The First Lady was not at all put out to find a lawbreaker in her husband's family. To be accepted among the "old families of American society" is a mark of good breeding to have a Scottish ancestor, preferably one with a touch of glamour—just as Australians boast of their descent from convicts transported from Britain.

Shelving the 4,000

WHILE 60 cartons of books belonging to the late Bishop of Woolwich, Dr John Robinson, await shelf space at Lambeth Palace, I learn that another large theological collection is on the move.

The Rev. Dr Alan Stephenson, the director of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lambeth Diploma from 1970, who died in July, left a library of 4,000 volumes on church history, theology, and clerical biography. His widow Betty is donating the entire collection to Ripon Cathedral, which is to set up a memorial library for use by students in the diocese.

The collection's new home is appropriate. Dr Stephenson was a deacon of the cathedral, vice-principal of Ripon Hall, and spent many years researching the life of Archbishop Langley, Ripon's first bishop and founder of the Lambeth Conferences. Stephenson was well advanced on a biography of Langley when he died and his son David hopes to finish the book.

Furry friends

A READER has spotted a rather ominous advertisement in the Oxford Star which states: "Wanted, cage suitable for two guinea pigs at least three feet long."

PETERBOROUGH

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Africa's ecological breakdown

SIR—I write as a friend of Africa (including South Africa) in response to Paul Johnson's article "Capitalism—the real threat to apartheid" (Dec. 14).

Mr Johnson writes of the propensity of capitalism to generate wealth, and sees it as part of the solution. Unfortunately, he neglects the corollary: the propensity of capitalism to create poverty just because it encourages dissatisfaction with one's lot and movement from self-reliance, however humble, into a cash economy.

As one who was deeply distressed by the television pictures of the entrepreneurs flocking to the money-rich pickings when Zimbabwe became "independent" and one who has known Africa for more than 30 years and watches with horror the breakdown over much of the continent, I would state that both communism and monopoly capitalism are destroyers and not problem solvers.

For any solution to be effective due consideration must be given to the speed of ecological breakdown: to the urban rush, to deforestation, pollution, and desertification. While some blacks may benefit from the lure of capitalism, even more, dragged into the money economy, will become poverty-stricken and lose all their former self-reliance.

Mr Johnson is encouraged by the fact that the number of black women in the professions in South Africa has trebled in the last 15 years to over 95,000. He does not mention that in that same period the population of the Republic increased by ten million, and, on present predictions (World Population Data Sheet) the average increase from now to the year 2000 will be over 3,000 people per day and this is from the excess of births over deaths and not from immigration! A not dissimilar number of people will be wanting jobs if they are encouraged to join the money economy!

While I am not yet completely convinced that "business" is deliberately causing the destruction of Africa in order to gain its own ends—the capitalism of which Mr Johnson writes—I am convinced that business leaders are

Other letters page 7

generally blind to ecological reality and are causing environmental disaster in Africa on a scale that will inevitably wreck our own trade with that continent before long.

Economic growth in a finite planet the population "doubling time" of which is estimated at 40 years is a non-starter for the majority. Self and local community reliance would be more effective.

P. A. B. PEACEY, Ipswich, Suffolk.

Strange platform

SIR—According to Mr Stephen Eyles (Dec. 22) Lord Althorp is now deprived of the Tory whip in the Upper House. "Is a socialist in everything but name."

Why stop at Lord Althorp—who would probably claim to be exactly the same kind of Conservative he was when he served as a Minister in the Macmillan Government?

Were all Ministers then "socialists in everything but name?" Certainly some of Mrs Thatcher's most zealous supporters seem to think so, but it would be a strange kind of platform to present to the country.

The fact is that there is more than one definition of what Mr Eyles calls "authentic Conservative principles." Harold Macmillan saw (and still sees) them one way. A fair number of Conservative backbenchers apparently still see them the same way.

And Harold Macmillan, incidentally, did win a rather handsome victory at the polls in 1959—against a Labour party arguably more impressive than the one defeated in 1963.

CHRISTOPHER BRUCE, London, SW1.

The BBC mart

From Mr JOHN GORST, M.P. (Con.) and Mr TIM BRINTON, M.P. (Con.)

SIR—In his apparent desire to make out a case against any new assessment of the B.B.C.'s finances or role in broadcasting, Mr Sean Day-Lewis (Dec. 17) writes that Tory M.P.s like John Gorst and Tim Brinton want "television to pay the levy to the cinema, despite the preference of most consumers for domestic viewing of films."

He implies that this is inconsistent with our being, in his view, "champions of market values."

Mr Day-Lewis has not followed the debates in the Standing Committee on the Films Bill. He should know that our support for the levy on television is because there is no free market in the buying and selling of feature films to the duopoly-dominated television industry.

Nor is the existence of market distortion, which is conceded by the Minister in charge of the Bill, the only reason for recycling funds from television in order to support a native, British cinema film industry.

The prices paid for showing cinema feature films on television are significantly below fair ones. Theoretically, 100 showings of a feature film in a 500-seat cinema (at 50p admissions), might yield £100,000. That is a price which television might, on average, pay to show the same film to an audience of eight million.

JOHN GORST, TIM BRINTON, House of Commons.

Motorway behaviour

SIR—I read the letter headed "High speeds" from Mr D. A. C. Hutchinson (Dec. 21) with incredulity. (Yes, I have come across drivers of like mentality on the motorways but never thought one would have the gall to write criticising other motorists.)

The left hand lane is not a lorry lane! It is the lane all drivers should use unless they are overtaking when they should use the other lanes as appropriate. No lane is designated as "fast lane," the speed limit is the same whichever lane you are in.

I am not a sales representative but I can sympathise with this much maligned section of the community refuse to move over. It is precisely that the right-hand overtaking lane does get so full and as a result, average speeds on it are well below the 80 to 95 mph as suggested.

HUGO VERNON, Solihull, West Midlands.

Word games

SIR—Can Mr E. C. Hayman (Dec. 20) as neatly explain to us "wash up," "dust down" and "clean through?"

T. WILLIAMSON, Haltwhistle, Northumberland.

Ministry to launch campaign for a healthier diet

By DAVID FLETCHER Health Services Correspondent

A CAMPAIGN to persuade people to adopt more healthy eating habits is to be launched by the Department of Health in the New Year.

Health Ministers are alarmed at figures showing that Britain has the third worst record in Europe for heart disease, exceeded only by Finland and Ireland.

GAYELORD HAUSER DIES AT 89

By IAN BRODIE in Los Angeles

GAYELORD Hauser, the health-food author whose name became a synonym for good looks and long life, has died of complications from pneumonia at his home in North Hollywood. He was 89.

Hauser was the original popular advocate of exercise combined with a high-protein, low-fat diet containing plenty of fresh fruit and vegetables. He was one of the first to write of the values of yogurt, molasses, wheat germ, brewers' yeast and herb teas.

He was often at odds with doctors for advocating abandonment of traditional meat-and-potatoes diets. But he lived long enough to see his ideas assume respectability and catch on throughout the western world.

His dozen books, including "Look Younger, Live Longer" and "Be Happier, Be Healthier," sold 50 million copies and were translated into many languages. He launched the magazine "Diet Digest."

Glamorous companions
Starting in the Roaring Twenties, he shared his fitness secrets with some of the best-known women of the time, including Greta Garbo, Marlene Dietrich, Gloria Swanson and the Duchess of Windsor.

Garbo was one of many glamorous companions. She and Hauser invested in property together on Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills, now one of the richest shopping precincts in the world. He was a sickly child, the eleventh of 15 children. After joining an elder brother in Milwaukee in 1911, he contracted tuberculosis of the hip which a series of operations failed to cure.

Then he met a "naturopath" who recommended clay packs and herb tea. His condition responded immediately. During convalescence in Switzerland, he continued to improve with the guidance of a monk who put him on a diet of salads, fruit juices, vegetable broths and herbs.

From then on, Hauser devoted his life to promoting diet and exercise. His regimen was low on sugar and fat, and included an hour of walking, swimming or water-skiing every day.

Nazi massacre town refuses to forgive

By LESLIE CHILDE in Rome

MORE than 200 relatives of the victims of a Nazi reprisal massacre voted overwhelmingly yesterday against granting pardon to the SS major who ordered it.

MP CALLS FOR RANDOM B-TESTS

RANDOM breath tests were urged yesterday after the "failure" of the Government's drink-drive campaign over Christmas.

Mr Peter Bruinvels, Conservative MP for Leicester East, has tabled a series of Commons questions demanding a full report from Ministers on the effect of what he described as the "misguided" "Stay Low" campaign.

Several police forces have reported offences up over Christmas.

Re-think needed

In Nottinghamshire, police have already charged 87 motorists with drink-drive offences since the start of their holiday "blitz," which ended on Wednesday. Last year 70 drivers were caught throughout the whole holiday period.

Mr Bruinvels said: "There should be a complete re-think of drinking and driving at all times of the year, and the requirement should be that if you are driving do not drink at all."

"This campaign, which has clearly failed, has not deterred people from driving after drinking. Random testing is now the only safe way, although I advocate it with great reluctance."

SINGERS CHARGED

Rod Stewart, Sheena Easton and other rock music performers have been charged with misdemeanors for allegedly playing too loudly at concerts in the Pacific Amphitheatre near Los Angeles. The move by the City Attorney's office was the latest action taken to curb noise at the outdoor concert arena.—UPI

They believe we should take a lesson from America where death rates from heart disease are falling and where there is a much greater public awareness of the link between diet and good health.

The campaign, to be co-ordinated by Mr John Patten, Junior Health Minister, will urge the eating of less animal fat, less salt, and no more sugar than at present.

It will point to the advantages of eating more fresh fruit and vegetables and more fibre-rich foods such as wholemeal bread.

Consumers' choices

Mr Patten is keen to stress that the Government will not lay down an approved diet but will point out the healthy advantages of a change in diet and let consumers make their own choices.

His determination to act stems from a recent report of the Committee on Medical Aspects of Food Policy which recommended reductions in consumption of salt and fatty foods.

The Health Department has asked an Advisory Committee to distil the report's recommendations into easily understood guidance on what food to eat and what to avoid.

Discussions are currently being held between the Government and food manufacturers to reach a new agreement on food labelling so that consumers can see clearly how much fat—among other things—is in food products.

Smoking, too

Family doctors will also be encouraged to advise patients who are overweight or who have high blood pressure of the extra risks they face of having a heart attack.

The campaign will closely involve the Health Education Council which is already stressing that smoking in addition to causing lung cancer is also partly responsible for high levels of heart disease among smokers.

REPLY ON SUGAR

'Criticism ill-informed'

The sugar industry is hitting back at claims that sugar is linked with heart disease, diabetes and tooth decay. A series of papers is being prepared under the title "Putting Sugar in Perspective," saying that the criticism is ill-informed and not supported by the latest scientific evidence.

British Sugar is currently processing the 1984 sugar beet crop which is expected to produce a near record yield of about 1.5 million tonnes.



Mr Len Murray, the former TUC general secretary who has been created a Life Peer in the New Year Honours, pictured with his wife Heather at their home in Loughton, Essex, yesterday.

BLITZ ON PAVEMENT PARKING

By JOHN GRIGSBY Local Government Correspondent

MOTORISTS who park on the pavement or grass verges in Greater London face a fine of up to £25 from Wednesday.

The move is expected to increase pressure on parking spaces particularly in residential areas in Central and West London.

The measure is being introduced by the Labour-controlled GLC, under its General Powers Act.

The council also intends to launch a publicity campaign to pay boroughs towards the cost of employing "pavement protectors" to enforce the ban although most are expected to use traffic wardens.

Mr Paul Moore, vice chairman of the GLC's Transport Committee, was responsible for introducing the scheme said: "We need to reclaim the footpaths for pedestrians."

The council intended to make pavements safe for mothers pushing prams, old people and the blind and disabled.

£15m damage

The GLC estimates that cars and lorries parking on pavements and verges, sometimes crashing through pavements and disturbing basement storage areas and gas mains, caused £15 million worth of damage every year.

For many years organisations representing the blind and disabled have been campaigning against parking on pavements.

But the police argued they did not have the manpower to enforce a ban. Some boroughs have also been cool, arguing that pavement parking relieved pressure on already tight, stretched car parking spaces while enabling the traffic to flow.

A spokesman for the Automobile Association said: "While we do not condone parking on the pavement, we are worried that many people will find nowhere to park. The real answer is adequate car parking facilities."

MAXWELL SELLS ODHAMS SITE

Mr Robert Maxwell has completed a deal to sell the former Odhams printing site in Watford, Herts, to the Associated Dairies Group for an undisclosed sum.

The buildings will be modified to form an ASDA superstore in 1986 with 800 new jobs. The site became vacant in 1985 when Odhams merged with the Sun printing group with the loss of 1,400 jobs.

Conway tunnel snag hits new coast road

By JOHN PETTY Transport Correspondent

PROBLEMS have arisen in the scheme for a tunnel under the River Conway as part of a £500 million 19-mile new road along the coast of North Wales from Abergelle to Bangor.

The design will have to be changed because of "foundation and ground water problems in the Conway estuary." It will increase the cost by £3,600,000.

The tunnel will have to be 75 yards longer on the eastern side and there will have to be "a different form of construction" on the western side.

The £920 million M25 motorway under construction around London. It is due to open in 1989 as the A25 Expressway and will be part of a continuous dual carriage-way from Chester to Anglesey.

Another major road project which has run into difficulty is the Stoke-Derby link. Mrs

Drop in church-goers to continue in 1985

By Canon D. W. GUNDRY Churches Correspondent

THE decline in active membership of the main Christian churches will continue into 1985, according to figures published by Marc Europe, the research group associated with the Evangelical Alliance and the Bible Society.

Total British church-going membership was given as 7,516,250 in 1980. By 1985 Marc estimates it will have dropped to 7,323,425.

There will be a decline in all the main churches, but an increase in the small evangelical and fringe sects and in the orthodox church.

The total number of Protestants in 1980 was 5,122,449 and Catholics 2,393,801, but these British figures include a high number of Presbyterians and Catholics in Northern Ireland.

A decrease is particularly marked among the 13 denominations affiliated to the Free Church Federal Council. Their total membership is now under one million, with a loss of young people connected with them.

Encouraging look

Other surveys give a more encouraging interpretation of recent church statistics.

In his survey "I Believe in Church Growth," Mr. Eddie Gibbs of the Bible Society revealed a startling increase of Christians throughout the world, particularly in South America and Africa. He also stressed the more committed nature of church membership in Britain now.

Surveys of the Dr Billy Graham and Mr Luis Palau missions to Britain in 1984 claim they have increased church membership. Of the 87,000 who made "a public declaration for Christ," at Dr Graham's Mission England, 61 per cent are still attending church.

Telephone poll

Through a telephone poll of 377 churches it was found that Methodists had retained 84 per cent of those referred to them by Mission England. The United Reformed Church kept 78 per cent, the Church of England 68 per cent, Baptists 55 per cent and other churches 51 per cent.

Some churches said the Rev. Gavin Reid, the Church of England clergymen who was national director of Mission England, were not doing enough to welcome new believers.

Marc Europe has figures suggesting that Mr Luis Palau's Mission to London included the Etwell bypass. The church attendance in Greater London by 1.8 per cent.

MEMORIAL TO BLAST VICTIMS STOLEN

A bronze memorial to the 28 people who died in the Nypro explosion at Flixborough, Humberside, 10 years ago has been stolen from the village churchyard.

The memorial, a statue of maidens in flight which weighs 3½ cwt was sawn off at the base by thieves on Friday night. It had been moved to the churchyard a mile away from the Nypro site when the rebuild works closed two years ago.

The Rev. Peter Hearn, rector of Flixborough, said that he feared the statue had been stolen to be melted down for scrap. He added: "It is a terrible thing for someone to do considering that it is a memorial which commemorates a disaster and loss of life."

NO MORE NEW £1 NOTES

By GUY RAIS

THE £1 note begins its last, long downward slide today as the Bank of England officially switches over to the £1 coin.

And there is no reprieve for the halfpenny, the country's smallest coin, which ceases to be legal tender at midnight.

From today the Bank of England will stop distributing £1 notes, leaving only used ones—560 million of them—in circulation for another year.

And with an average "life" of only 10 months, compared to 40 years for the £1 coin, the green pound will quickly become extinct.

Campaign fails

Public dislike of the new coin has meant that only about 180 million of the 570 million coins minted are in circulation.

A campaign to save the pound note got off to a strong start, with MPs and peers calling for its retention. But Mr Lawson, the Chancellor, quickly announced that no more new pound notes would be printed after the end of the year.

The first pound note was introduced during the Napoleonic Wars. Twenty-five years later the notes were replaced by gold sovereigns, but it was not until the 1914-18 war that the banknote returned.

It has undergone six changes, the last in 1978, featuring St Isaac Newton. The steady rise in inflation put the note in jeopardy. It is now barely a quarter of its value of 30 years ago.

Charities benefit

Regional banknotes will continue to survive. Scotland, Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man, Jersey and Guernsey, all plan to continue issuing pound notes.

Few will mourn the passing of the halfpenny, which was introduced with decimalisation in 1971. It inflation led to the demise of the pound note, it completely killed off the smallest coin.

Many people who inadvertently dropped them would not deign to pick them up, or even take them in change, even if they were offered.

About 15 million halfpennies—nearly 50,000—were collected for charities by the National and Provincial Building Society through an appeal launched when the Royal Mint ceased issuing the coins last March.

BOND WINNERS

Winning numbers in the weekly draw for £100,000, £50,000 and £25,000 Premium Bond Prizes, announced yesterday, are: £100,000 number 125 498117 (winner from Barnet), £50,000 number 15AW 914280 (Berks), £25,000 number 71T 209219 (Lancashire).

Teachers horrified at prospect of penalty system

By SARAH THOMPSON Education Staff

A BONUS and penalty system aimed at rewarding good teachers with an annual £1,000 increment and squeezing bad ones out altogether is expected to be threatened by Sir Keith Joseph, Education Secretary, in a speech to the North of England Education Conference in Chester on Friday.

He is thought likely to announce that he may bring in legislation to create tougher probation for young teachers and annual assessment operated by the teaching profession itself.

His reference to possible legislation is regarded as a reminder to the unions and authorities that the Government is determined to seek improvements in standards.

But his commitment to "weeding out" poor teachers incenses the unions, who object to the implied criticism of their profession and say that current standards are far from sufficiently rewarded.

Talks halted

Before Christmas, the National Union of Teachers, the largest union, unilaterally halted joint structure talks for assessment and a new teachers' contract.

The authorities' package included higher pay in return for a more clear-cut definition of teachers' work and contractual obligations covering what are new voluntary duties, such as lunchtime supervision.

Yesterday the NUT's general secretary, Mr Fred Jarvis, said: "By re-emphasising this issue, Sir Keith is only succeeding in making teachers against him. He would be better advised to try to improve his relationship with the profession rather than to add to the hostility already there."

He has a total obsession with the idea that teachers are incompetent," said Mr Fred Smith, General Secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers. "In fact it is not at all difficult to get rid of incompetent teachers, and where necessary it is being done."

That teaching incompetence is a "myth" is a view shared by many local education authority advisers, whose job it is to deal with such cases, according to Mr John Pearce, an adviser in Cambridgeshire.

With the single exception of the Inner London Education Authority, he wrote in a recent edition of *Education*, the school administrators' magazine: "weak and incompetent teachers do not seem all that common."

OVER 60s STAR PUPILS AT OPEN

By Our Education Staff

THE over-sixties are star students in the Open University, according to results of a two-year investigation by the university's researchers.

But they say, examiners should give consideration to older students whose memory is not as good as it was.

About 4.4 per cent of the university's students are aged 60 and over. This group was found to have the lowest drop-out rate, and the group was "among the most successful of all Open University students."

More persistent
The researchers noted that the over-sixties were more persistent with their course work, which is assessed throughout the year, and "work diligently to achieve satisfactory grades."

But the stress of examinations at the end of each year—the results of which are combined with continuous assessment grades—gives the older students lower marks with an 84 per cent pass rate—six per cent lower than the pass rate for the under-sixties.

JOY-RIDERS, 14, DIE IN CRASH

Two 14-year-old boys were killed when a car in which police believe they were joy-riding collided with an oncoming vehicle at Aidington, Croydon, at the weekend.

Sam Porter, of Shirley, Croydon, and Terry Farrant, of New Addington, died when they were thrown from the car. Steven Farrant, 15, brother of one of the victims, was hospitalized yesterday with serious head injuries.

ITV BLACKOUT

By Our Television Staff

An explosion in an electricity cable at the studios of London Weekend Television on Saturday night blacked out ITV and Channel 4 screens for up to 20 minutes.

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man scans
New Year

DESPITE falling interest rates at home, the dollar continues to test new peaks abroad as 1984 slides into 1985.

It also appears that the United States economy — with its troubling trade deficits and government budget overspending — have picked up speed in recent weeks instead of continuing the autumn's downward trend. And all of this disturbing news takes place against a background of revived concern about the problems of the debtor developing countries and the instability of Opec's pricing policies.

Will America pull the rug out from beneath another year of recovery for Europe and the rest of the world in 1985? What is the dollar's trend for the year ahead?

When Wall Streeters want to answer those questions they turn to Thomas R. Robinson, head of Merrill Lynch's international economic division. For the 41-year-old Robinson, the key to the dollar's new year's prospects is whether or not Ronald Reagan gets his budget proposals adopted intact by Congress next month.

The Reagan budgetary proposals were a balanced attempt

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to get at the Federal budget deficits without also throwing the United States economy into a serious tailspin, which I think would be adverse not only to the United States but also would be a big negative for the world economy. "You cannot have the United States simply stop buying overseas because of a sudden recession here," Mr Robinson said recently.

Nor should people expect us to try to lower those deficits in one large chunk. We want to try to lower the deficit in a very gradual fashion. So I would expect in the upcoming fiscal 1986 budget proposal the deficit envisaged would still be something close to \$130 billion. That would be some improvement from the \$175 billion to \$180 billion that will have been run in fiscal 1984 and 1985," he said.

Weaker dollar

A specific prediction? "I think for sterling we have a prediction of about .75 to the dollar or \$1.37 the other way. We are talking, say, 2-65 marks by the end of 1985."

"What is important for the world economy is that the foreign capital inflows into the United States will continue next year. This will keep worldwide interest rates higher than they otherwise would be."

But also I think that the flows are constructive in that they can be viewed as the final part of the deflationary adjustment process which is going on worldwide as well. I think that means less pressure on the gold markets and less prospect of a revival of inflation," Mr Robinson adds.

"I think the Federal Reserve kept money growth slow as it had been through the autumn as part of an insurance policy."

"I believe the Fed is operating in a tight environment of insurance that we all do. All the Fed is saying is that the slow economic growth of the autumn is certainly less than in the first half of 1984. But it may be just an interim period."

What, then, about the prospects of a United States recession at the end of 1985, or perhaps in early 1986?

"I think there is a risk but the imbalances in the United States economy are not very pronounced right now. The consumer is not seriously spending out of balance with capital spending."

But there is a risk that still remains. It is whether foreign investors retain confidence in the United States. If we start to see a flight of capital from the United States the fundamental result will be that interest rates will shoot through the roof at the point that the dollar collapses," Mr Robinson adds.

James Srodes

Bank shares rise
as Argentine
debt crisis cools

By ANNE SEGALL

INTERNATIONAL banks believe that once the Argentine debt crisis package which they have been hurrying to complete is finally in place, the world debt crisis will enter a much more manageable phase — one indeed where the term crisis may at last cease to be appropriate.

This growing mood of optimism is reflected in the performance of bank shares which have risen by 5 p.c. on average since the Argentine debt crisis was announced early in December and by well over one quarter since the debt crisis plunged new depths in May.

That was the month when Argentina failed to reach an agreement with the International Monetary Fund in spite of pressure from the American government and when Latin American debtors seemed on the verge of forming a debtors' cartel. It was also the month when the stability of the entire international financial system was threatened by a run on the deposits of Continental Illinois of Chicago, America's eighth largest bank.

Banks now admit that the early summer produced some very real fears with both Argentina and Bolivia showing signs of wanting to walk away from their obligations. The failure of Argentina to bring its interest arrears up to date opened up the possibility of American banks having to make substantial provisions against their Argentine loans.

A second-hand market developed in unwanted third world loans, with Argentine loans trading at discounts of around 30 p.c. of face value.

So great was the sense of

LOMBARD STREET

£500m ON A GOLDEN STRING

THE HIGH street banks are planning to sell investors in industry, the £1 group. It could be worth anything up to £500 million.

They are now looking for the means of getting £1 into safe hands and keeping it there without at the same time wrecking the price. Could they keep a golden string in £1, they wonder, or attach a golden string?

Their shareholdings go back almost 40 years to the creation of £1 under its original name — still, perhaps, its best known — of the Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation, or ICF, C. This was a joint effort by the London and Scottish clearing banks and the Bank of England, which still holds 15 p.c. of the shares.

Other holdings have been reshuffled by bank mergers. National Westminster's is the biggest at 24 p.c. with Barclays, at 19 p.c. just ahead of the Midland.

ICFC's part in rebuilding British business after the war was to finance the middle-sized companies — too big to subsidise on bank overdrafts but too small to come to the stock market.

The need was there, and it made every sense for the big banks to come together and meet it. As market wits said of the Morgan family, buying shares during the Wall Street crash: Who else had any money left?

That ownership makes no sense now. It is not just that £1 has grown big and strong enough to stand on its own feet. The banks themselves have changed. Their cartels have been broken. Competitors have poured into what they took to be their tied markets and are still pouring.

The middle-sized business, for which ICF, C was designed, is now offered every kind of financial service from every kind of source. Many of these services — leasing, factoring, term loans or venture capital — come from the banks themselves.

Meanwhile £1 has grown to take its owners on in ship finance, property, energy, fund management and corporate finance. In all of these the banks are competing with each other. Why should they want

to co-operate in owning a group which competes with them all?

Now, too, the big banks are no longer the only people with any money left. By the standards applied to them they could use a little more.

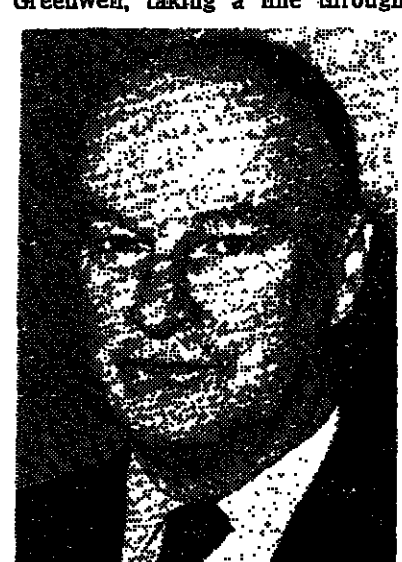
All the world's big banks are having to rebuild their balance sheets and their capital bases to recover from their international lending. Our own banks have been raising new forms of borrowed capital.

Now they have been told, in effect, that only equity will suffice — a message which the Bank of England's Peter Cooke prudently passed to them from a safe distance in a speech at Kathmandu.

Where is the equity to come from, say the banks? Another weary round of rights issues? Isn't there some investment we could turn into cash?

What sort of cash might the banks expect from £1? Its last financial year, to March 31, showed record profits of £33 million before tax and a balance sheet totalling £1,446 million, supported by £238 million of shareholders' funds.

Keith Brown, at brokers W. Greenwell, taking a line through



Lord Caldecote, chairman of ICF, C, 'realising £40 million of profits without disturbing the markets.'

the market ratings of some merchant banks, suggests that on those earnings £1 could be worth £200 million. Or, if the yield on £1 shares was the same as the merchant banking sector's, it would be worth another £40 million or so. Norval Reed, at Grenfell & Colegrave, is more sanguine. The £1 directors, he points out, say that their investments in land are worth £49 million more than the figure at which they appear in the balance sheet. Add the £49 million on to shareholders' funds and add on another £24 million for deferred tax and you get £311 million.

Loan book

Since this year-end the stock market has gone up, interest rates have inched down. £1's client companies are likely to have strengthened their own finances — so the investments are worth more. And the loan book is worth more. Do I hear £400 million?

Even that may not be the last bid. We can only guess at the investment profits which £1 has up its sleeve, but chairman Lord Caldecote was able to claim that last year £1 realised £40 million of profits on shares it owned — "without disturbing the markets."

What about the investments which have yet to reach a market — the growing businesses, the new starts, the high-technology aspirants, the management buyouts? "They may have a mini-united securities market tucked away inside there," Mr Reed says cheerfully.

Venture capital companies are themselves welcome in the stock market these days, as Candover's example shows. Among them £1 can fairly claim the rating due to a leader and earned by experience, long years of picking up debris having taught £1 people what some of their more starry-eyed competitors have yet to learn.

Mr Reed's idea of the price range for £1 is from £400 million to £500 million. But then, who would be allowed to buy it? All must depend on that.

Those few high street bankers who have not yet despaired of ingratiating themselves with the Prime Minister must suppose that

By Christopher Fildes

a move towards freer competition would win her approval. But, good populist that she is, she would balk at seeing £1, the small man's friend, in the hands of Mr Magic the financier or Mr Pushful the usurer.

The Bank of England, with its own shareholding in £1, clearly has a special responsibility. There could be respectable buyers whom the banks would, none the less, want to keep out. They would not like to open up so large a share of their home market to Citicorp, say, or Deutsche Bank.

Hence the search for a golden share or golden string. Could £1 be sold, as the State holding in Ferranti was sold, to a group of buyers pledged to hold on to it, at least for while? Or as Britoil was sold, with the Government retaining a golden share giving rights to block a foreign takeover? Or as Jaguar was sold, with a golden share which has a limited life and in 1988 will turn into a pumpkin?

Once that search has succeeded £1 will be for sale, and if that goes well other sales will surely follow. The London clearing banks and the Bank of England own the Agricultural Mortgage Corporation, the Scottish clearing banks own the Scottish Agricultural Securities Corporation. Both go back to the days when no one but the banks had any money — least of all the farmers. Times have changed.

Then there is the Yorkshire Bank, a model for the local banking which England and Wales, though not Scotland so lack — close to its roots, close to its customers, far from the Argentine.

Yorkshire Bank made £36 million before tax last year (this year, the miners' strike has hurt). The shares are owned by National Westminster, Barclays, Lloyds and the Royal Bank of Scotland group in that order. This anachronistic arrangement would have ended long since if any of the potential sellers could have trusted any of the potential buyers not to gobble the Yorkshire Bank up.

Sidney Wild, Yorkshire Bank's resourceful chairman, may already be comparing notes with Lord Caldecote at £1. Both will want to know how it feels to be gilded in golden string.

Stock Exchange and
Liffe set for clash

By JOHN RUDOFSKY

THE Stock Exchange and the financial futures market, Liffe, seem set for a head-on clash in the new year over foreign currency traded options. Both are determined to introduce them around spring but there is almost certainly only enough City business for one market.

Although both markets worked closely together during the early development of Liffe's futures contracts, each feels it is the natural home for these cash options which have been very successfully introduced in America and Amsterdam.

Currency traded options give the right to buy or sell a currency like sterling or Swiss francs at a fixed rate to the dollar for some months ahead regardless of subsequent exchange rate moves. But unlike futures, which are not committed to buying or selling, the stock market, keen to develop its traded options pitch, believes new options fall naturally within its sphere. It has no formal role in the City's currency options, but it is a natural home for them. The Stock Exchange is the right place," said one. "These options are not just for banks but for investment too."

The Bank of England is watching developments with considerable interest. Although it has no formal role in the City's currency options, it is a natural home for them. The Stock Exchange is the right place," said one. "These options are not just for banks but for investment too."

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THE DAILY TELEGRAPH SHARE RACE 1985

NOW IS THE TIME TO SELECT YOUR RUNNER

ONCE again we invite readers to try their skill at Stock Exchange investments by naming the single share in our daily lists which they believe will outperform all others during 1985.

This is the seventh year of what has proved to be an extremely popular competition. Every month we will be publishing regular reports on the progress of the race.

As prizes there will be at least 100 bottles of champagne with magnifying for the outright winners. The reader or readers who nominate the winning share will each be sent a bottle. Then these nominating the second-best share . . . and so on.

We would like to hear from people for whom investment is an occasional hobby as well as from those whose work involves financial matters.

THE RULES

1. Competitors must select ONE SHARE ONLY from the securities listed on the prices page of

The Daily Telegraph. Entries must be limited to one per person. Multiple applications will be rejected and securities standing at less than 10p are excluded.

2. Entries should only be made on forms printed in The Daily

Telegraph. Photocopies are not acceptable.

3. Starting prices will be taken at the close of business on January 2, 1985 as shown in The Daily Telegraph of January 3, 1985.

4. Final prices will be taken at the close of business on December 6, 1985, as shown in The Daily Telegraph on December 7, 1985.

5. Share prices will be adjusted for scrip and rights issues during the year.

6. Shares subject to a takeover bid which becomes unconditional will be valued at the higher of cash or share alternative as at the date the bid becomes unconditional.

7. Entries must be received by January 4, 1985.

8. The City Editor's decision in all matters is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

9. Employees of The Daily Telegraph, Sunday Telegraph and Telegraph Sunday Magazine and their families are not eligible to enter the competition.

Andreas Whitman Smith, City Editor

Tel:

Please mark your envelope "Competition."

TO: THE DAILY TELEGRAPH Share Race, 118, Queen Victoria Street, London EC4P 4BS.

My share of the year is

Name and Address and telephone number

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The Questor Nine for '85

PICKING New Year share selections is always fun, but never easy.

This year it is harder than ever. The stock market is closing the year at its all-time low. Real interest rates are historically high. The oil price prop to the economy is suspect.

The logical implication for the stock market is that it will find the going tough in the coming year—that the 30-share index is more likely to test 800 again rather than assault the 1,000 level.

But markets operate only partially on logic. Sentiment is equally, if not more, important, and sentiment is still very much in favour of a rising market.

And why not? After all, a year ago, the market looked as if it should remain steady, or even decline, but in fact it rose by close to 25 p.c.

In making this coming year's selections, I have had to recognise that sentiment may not remain favourable throughout the year, and consequently include some "safe" shares which should remain on institutional buying lists even through a dull market.

BTR is one such share and, Dees Corporation another, but since they were both included in my 1984 portfolio I am allowing them a year's rest. Hanson Trust has made various guest appearances in Questor New Year portfolios, and I am bringing it back for 1985.

Whether the Powell Duffryn bid succeeds or fails, Hanson on a prospective price-earnings ratio of under 15 times will beat the market.

Searching out shares which are ripe for a re-rating by the stock market is a reliable recipe for capital growth, and Coats Patons fits firmly into that category.

Investors are gradually accepting that Coats is not a tired tex-

tile conglomerate but a broadly-based international group which derives less than 15 p.c. of its profits from what might be termed "commodity" textile businesses.

The remainder is from home sewing and craft products, top quality retailing and manufacturing in the Country Casuals and major businesses and high precision engineering.

Profits in the 1984 financial year, which ends today, are likely to emerge at around £105 million before tax to put the shares at 138p on a 6.5 times price-earnings ratio. Assuming further profits progress in 1985 and a modest lift in the rating to, say, eight times the shares will pass £2 before the year end.

Still in the "safe company" sector, Fisons is capable of further share price appreciation in 1985. The shares performed well this year, but they are not yet reflecting the company's potential.

In particular, Fisons has just been given the go-ahead to market its successful Opticrom eye anti-glare drug in the United States.

The company has also made acquisitions in the health care area, and owns more than half the useable reserves of agricultural peat in the whole of North America.

On the basis of improving earnings and an element of re-rating, Fisons shares at 280p will outperform the market as a whole and give a reasonable stock market could see capital appreciation of 100p or so.

Glass Glover is a share which has already served readers of this column well but promises to move ahead again in 1985.

The company has just agreed the purchase of a Scottish fruit and flowers business, Rankins Fruit Markets. At first sight it looks a very expensive purchase for Glass Glover is paying £3.1 million for a group which pro-



duced pre-tax profits of £90,000 last year.

The acquisition was not made on the basis of its current profitability, but for what it can bring to Glass Glover. In one swoop it has acquired the largest distributor of fruit and flowers in Scotland, gained a foothold in catering supplies, released precious space in its Newbridge depot which can be used to expand the third party distribution activities, and increased its shareholding in Edinburgh wholesale fruit market to 47.3 p.c.

Oh, and it will also get around a million of cash back from the sale of surplus investment property.

The immediate effect of the deal will be to dilute the profit growth, but for 1986—which is where analysts will be directing attention by the end

QUESTOR'S SELECTIONS

	Price
Hanson Trust	328
Coats Patons	140
Fisons	290
Glass Glover	275
Enterprise Oil	182
British Land	143
Ladbroke Group	259
Wardle Stores	167
F. H. Tomkins	138

of 1985—the outlook is sparkling.

Enterprise Oil made quite an impact when it came to market—first shunned by the institutions, then grabbed from behind by Rio Tinto-Zinc and finally left to get on with its own investment development.

Inevitably, interest in the shares has waned and now they stand below the 1985 issue price. Hardly surprising, given the uncertainties in the crude oil market.

However, investors should not ignore the positive aspect of oil price uncertainty. Oil production and exploration properties become a buyers' market, and Enterprise is very much a buyer. It has more than £100 million of cash available for investment in oil resources and total net assets worth at least 500p.

Enterprise will substantially beat its prospectus profits forecast for the coming year, another big increase in earnings is on the cards.

A big increase in earnings is what British share investors need to set its share price moving. Over recent years the active John Ritblat has made many strategic acquisitions and some disposals, and the company is now set to reap the benefits.

British Land's flagship, Plantation House in the City, is commanding ever higher rentals as the area surrounding the building is elevated by the Billingsgate and other redevelopment.

The company has cash and deposits of more than £31 million which has just been buttressed by the profitable sale of the stake in Stock Conversion.

The shares stand at a greater than average discount to assets, and merely bringing British Land up to the level of discount to the property sector as a whole gives 40p upside in the share price. It should do much better than that.

Property is also a key ele-

ment in Ladbroke Group, although on trading grounds alone the shares rate as a strong buy. As with British Land and Hanson Trust, Ladbroke is extremely strongly managed with an entrepreneur at the top and skilled executive management to carry the policy.

While the Comfort acquisition will leave the market satisfied for stock in the immediate future, as the year progresses the shares will rise as increased earnings projections are applied to a higher price-earnings multiple.

Management is the reason for including Wardle Stores, a new entrant to the market in November. The main activity of the company is manufacture and printing of plastic sheeting, but its ambition is to pick up loosely managed acquisitions capable of generating cash.

The issue at 132p was heavily oversubscribed and it is easy to see the shares moving ahead to beyond the 200p level over the coming 12 months, especially if the notion that Wardle is "the new BTR" gathers strength.

Still in the holding company area, F. H. Tomkins is in an interesting phase of its development, run by ex-Hanson acquisitions manager Greg Hutchings and is being transformed from a buckles and fasteners maker into a broadly-based conglomerate.

The latest purchase, grass machinery maker Hayter, enhances the earning capability and market forecasts for the current year now range up to £5.5 million before tax.

By the end of 1985 investors will be looking forward to the April 1986 year-end profits which could move on to £5 million. A potential growth stock in the early stages of development.

Happy New Year!

by Colin Campbell

The softnomisation of Western economies

ECONOMIC COMMENTARY



By Frances Williams

IT IS, we are told, going to be a fairly good year for the world's economy and for Britain in 1985. The industrialised countries may grow by a respectable 3 p.c. after 4 p.c. in 1984. In Britain the ending of the miners' strike—which, pace Mr. Scarfell, must surely be the next Christmas—will ensure growth in the coming year somewhat higher than in the last.

Since the Industrial Revolution the expansion of gross national product, the measured output of all goods and services in the economy, has been the yardstick of economic progress. It is everyone's business, so to speak, as it is assumed, are the living standards of the population and at broadly the same rate.

This reliance on GNP as the gauge of how well an economy is serving its citizens has always presented an incomplete picture, but there are some good reasons for thinking that it is becoming increasingly unsatisfactory.

They are bound up with what a study by the Japanese finance industry has dubbed rather awkwardly the "softnomisation" of the Western industrial countries—their transformation into predominantly "soft" service and information-based economies from "hard" production-based ones.

The characteristics of a "softnomised" economy, the study suggests, are a growing demand by consumers for more diverse and specialised goods and services and an increasing emphasis on the quality of life rather than material abundance.

This, in turn, implies far-reaching changes in the workings of the economy: a move away from mass production to smaller-scale operations in which small and medium-sized companies have a definite edge; greater dispersal and decentralisation of business decision-making (made possible by information technology); and much more flexibility between the formal and informal factors of the economy as people move in and out of paid work.

These trends are already obvious in the West, where nearly six in 10 workers are employed in service industries. And they are expected to continue, with profound implications for Government policy.

At the most fundamental level, governments may no longer be able to rely on GNP as an adequate guide to living standards. Official statistics already fail to capture much of the activity that goes on in the economy—both in the "black" economy (where incomes from work are concealed from the authorities) and, more importantly, in the "grey," "invisible" or "informal" economy, where that goes unpaid, like housework, child rearing and all kinds of do-it-yourself.

If these tasks are undertaken by cleaners, nannies or builders for payment they appear in the GNP statistics. Otherwise they are treated as having no value. This is obviously a nonsense, and it can make the behaviour of GNP very misleading. Typically, people will mend their own cars or paint their own living rooms when times

The costs of economic growth on the other hand, pollution, urban congestion, noise, speculation of the countryside, and other way. And while the move away from manufacturing and the trend even within manufacturing to the more economic use of materials and resources, may lessen these costs, the growing demand for services poses others.

The late Fred Hirsch, in his influential book *The Social Limits to Growth*, pointed out that while everyone could have washing machines only a few could enjoy desirable beaches. It everyone stands on tiptoe no one will have a better view.

The competition for "status" goods and services—by definition available only to the few—may enhance GNP but adds rather less to the sum of human satisfaction.

"Softnomisation" does not, however, simply complicate the assessment of economic welfare. The Japanese study points out that the industrial economies may have become gradually less predictable in their response to policy changes.

At the same time (recorded) growth rates may be slower, because the output of services is harder to measure, but less prone to cyclical fluctuations, because it is less dependant than production of goods on stocks and inventories.

The good news for the Chancellor from Japan's perspective is that its conclusion is that the basic principle of softnomism is to vitalise the private sector, by restraining government intervention. The bad news is that Japan regards itself, culturally and economically, as peculiarly well placed to pan for a softnomised society.

After bldgeoning much of European manufacturing industry to pulp, could the Japanese be about to do the same for services? A happy New Year to you all!

THE MINING COLUMN'S NEW YEAR PORTFOLIO

RTZ for that touch of quality

IF ONLY there had been more like Great Victoria Gold in the 1984 mining portfolio, which was selected at 19p, rose to a year's high of 55p for a 189.5 p.c. gain and finally closed the year 73.7 p.c. up.

But then mining markets started 1984 in a nervous state, and throughout the year metal prices had a bumpy ride. Investors were required not only to take a view of individual metal prices, but of currencies as well, and it just wasn't good enough to pick a metal for which demand was strong. Prices, for the most part, went the other way.

Against this background the 1984 mining portfolio shows a 6.7 p.c. advance (one share up, four shares down), compared with a 25 p.c. fall by the mining finance sector relative to the industrial index, and a 21.7 p.c. underperformance by the sector relative to the market as a whole.

Individually, Alcoa was 5.7 p.c. lower at year-end in sterling terms—and aluminium was the one metal which most analysts one year ago happily selected as the metal for 1984. There was temporary excitement in the aluminium price, but this soon faded, and in dol-

lar terms Alcoa's share price performance has been poor.

Bridge Oil (down 17.5 p.c.) was caught in the general backlash against oil companies, and its diamond interests in Guinea West Africa, failed to capture the imagination of investors in 1984. However, I would not turn my back on this share just because of a poor 1984 stock market performance. The current financial year should be better, and 1985-86 will be the first full one when all its projects will be at optimum output.

E.Z. Industries was taken over during the year by North Broken Hill, and the portfolio assumed it took the cash offer. The effective exit price was thus 390p against a starting price of 404p, for a 3.5 p.c. fall.

My "fun stock"—Great Victoria Gold—has proved the best, despite the disappointing gold price which ends 1984 again testing its lowest point in 12 months. Australian currency movements gave Great Victoria some degree of protection against the United States dollar, the Welsh gold mine (Clogau St David's) in which it has an interest did come to the London Stock Exchange in its own right, and in

December it at least attempted a takeover.

Rustenburg Platinum continues to have a strong institutional holding (Johannesburg Consolidated, Anglo American) and its fundaments remain sound. But platinum shares caught a cold from gold and Rustenburg ends the year with a 13.5 p.c. fall on its January starting price.

As dawn breaks on 1985 my view is that it is again going to be tough to make money in mining markets this year, and the overall strategy must be defensive. In dollar terms the gold price has to fight against United States interest rates and the strength of the dollar; copper has approached and faded away, and many false dawns; and other base metals are still struggling to find direction.

Geographically the column

Share	Price
Hill Minerals	22
Impala	920
Leslie	225
RTZ	584
Samantha*	45.7

* Converted at AS140 = £1.

selects the United Kingdom, Australia, and because it would be churlish to ignore the world's major mining market, South Africa.

As the ultimate defensive share which offers a broad range of mining, industrial interests and which will certainly survive it is Rio Tinto-Zinc for the United Kingdom choice.

The share at current levels is nearer its 1984 low than its 1983 high, the new executive team assumes office on April 1, and the group is never long out of the news. There is a reasonable, if unexciting, yield and the quality of earnings is good.

Within Australia the choices are MIN, the steel and aluminium arm of Carr Boyd, which has a number of interesting gold prospects (including Harbour Lights), and Samantha—a company with a good management team behind it, and a share in the Temora gold deposit near Wagga Wagga, New South Wales.

Turning to South Africa and in the belief that platinum is still a sector worth backing the column goes for Impala. As a member of the Genor

group Impala can be expected to be a good dividend payer, and with income in mind has a yield advantage over Rustenburg.

Finally a pure gold price gamble in Leslie, which is a relatively low grade and high cost mine. South African gold mines have, however, enjoyed strong profits in local currency terms because of the weakness of the rand against the dollar.

Leslie warned on Friday in its 1984 annual report that the maintenance of profitability will depend on the gold price and strict control of working costs. However in its 1984 financial year dividend payments improved from 59 cents South African a share to 67 cents.

And though planned capital expenditure this year will increase, hopes are high for a further dividend lift.

The DAILY TELEGRAPH will report and comment on individual mining shares and situations in its regular coverage in the year ahead, but at this point it still looks like being a "touch-and-go" year because rarely have the waters seemed so muddy.

This is, however, a market where well remembering: Turn to mining markets on cold days.

by Malcolm Locke

A STOCK MARKET REVIEW

The small investor comes out to play

GEORGE ORWELL'S 1984 year of Big Brother turned out to be the year of the Small Man. Far from a government suppressing a people through over-all watchfulness, the legislation positively encouraged public involvement as its privatisation plans got into full swing culminating in the epic British Telecom issue in December.

The move towards wider state ownership, following on from the Government's ownership plans and the continuation of its policy for the wider distribution of wealth, seemed to dominate the year.

As productivity, company profits and dividends all continued on a rising trend, companies

were launching their own employee profit sharing schemes—thereby increasing public awareness in the stock market.

Consumer spending in the high street was also a predominant feature throughout the year with wages easily outstripping prices. Wage rises were averaging 7.5 p.c. over the year while the Government's continuing fight against inflation saw a year's three point gap as the yearly rate of inflation dipped to 4.7 p.c.

Not all was milk and honey. The miners' strike continued to cast its shadow with the repercussions and bitterness—running as deep as the very pits themselves—still yet to be

fully felt. Job losses, too, remained at a high level and unemployment continued to be above three million.

The dollar's strength and the trend toward cheaper oil saw sterling in full flight and falling to "crisis" levels. Gold, too, lost all its glitter to hit a two-year low of \$307.25 in December after opening the year at \$382.00 an ounce.

Despite all this, the equity sections of the stock market put up a very resilient performance, although timing, as always, was crucial. Government securities, however, were relatively overlooked and over the year the FINANCIAL TIMES Government Securities Index fell 1.73 p.c. to 81.88.

In January, the FINANCIAL TIMES "30" share index opened a shade off its peak at 775.7; the "500" index stood at 503.10; base rates were at 8 p.c.; while sterling purchased 160.5 p.c.

World markets were at record levels and London was in the midst of a classic "bull" phase. This, coupled with an easing of the economic outlook, and inflation down to 5.1 p.c., helped push the "30" index to 840.5 by the end of the month.

By February events across the Atlantic were once more beginning to take a hand at home as the American budget deficit and fears of higher interest rates put the index back below 800.

March saw the first of the many changes in the financial services area ahead of the proposed reformation of the jobber broking system in 1986. Barclays, Wedd Dörlicher and de Zoete Berau all joined forces; National Westminster linked up with Biscuit Bishop; and the Midland took a 28.8 p.c. stake in W. Greenwell.

In March, too, Mr. Lawson the Chancellor delivered his first Budget. Industry was cheered by the cut in corporation tax and the abolition of National Insurance surcharges, but the man in the street was again hit by further indirect taxation.

Tobacco, beer and spirits all went up while the introduction of VAT on take-away food left a nasty taste in the mouths of those in the fish and chip trade.

Overall the Budget was generally applauded, but the "30" index gained 20 points to 865.0—its biggest one day rise since September 1981. Banks re-

ponded with a cut in base rates to 8 p.c. and there was good news for homeowners as mortgage rates fell to 10 p.c.

These factors, plus good results from Shell and British Petroleum and strong institutional buying of shares, saw the market through the 900 barrier by the month's end.

By March, stock markets were at a peak of 922.8—as measured by the "30" index. Downward pressure on sterling and the possibility of further rises in interest rates, now up to between 9 and 9.5 p.c., began to undermine investment confidence.

This, coupled with the outlook for a protracted miners' strike, and its effect on Britain's economic recovery, saw a massive shake-out in markets which left the index more than 100 points lower by the end of the month.

In June, two more government privatisations—Enterprise Oil and Jaguar—got on the road. Enterprise failed to impress and with 36 p.c. left with the underwriters the issue was considered a flop—though RTZ did apply for a 48 p.c. stake!

With the strength of the dollar continuing, and the American economy forging ahead, the pound fell to 81.298 in July, precipitating a two point rise in base rates to 12 p.c. and a rise in home loan rates to 12 p.c. Shares took the hint and with electricity and gas prices set to rise—threatening the Government's inflation plans—stock markets fell to their lowest level of the year at 835.

National Westminster asked shareholders to dip into their bank balances for a £236 million rights issue; Tate & Lyle got sweet "on Bond"; while Robert Maxwell offered £100 million for the Mirror as Fleet Street went "Bingo Barmy."

By August, stock markets had recovered some of their poise. Base rates were down to 11 p.c. helped by good money supply figures, and with inflation running at 4.5 p.c. in July, there was a further half a point cut in interest rates to 10 p.c.

Sterling was still under pressure, and coupled with the collapse of the pit talks, the pound fell to 81.2415 in September. The swift ending of the dockers'

miners' sympathy strike" hoisted the pound briefly but another run for dollars left it down to 81.221.

In October, Johnson Matthey Banking began to cast its shadow over the City of London as its banking side ran into financial difficulties and the Bank of England stepped in with a rescue plan.

A fresh cut in North Sea oil prices and another breakdown in the miners' negotiations put sterling down to an all-time low of 81.186. The market reacted with its biggest one-day fall of 27.9 points to 838.7.

The downturn was short-lived. An encouraging Chancellor's statement on the economy, the re-election of President Reagan and a slow drift back to work by the miners saw the market bounce back to a peak of 925.3 in November.

Base rates were reduced to between 9 p.c. and 9.5 p.c.; home loan rates were coming down; inflation was 4.9 p.c. All this provided the fuel for the successful launch of a British Telecom flotation which attracted £15.5 billion of investors' money for the £5.86 billion worth of shares on issue.

Those investors' lucky enough to get in were awarded their own Christmas present in December as the shares, in their 50p partly-paid form, went on to more than 100p.

The impetus for another encouraging stock market performance and the "30" index hit a high of 945.2. This was in spite of a fall in sterling to a record low of 81.1627 and a drop in the gold price to \$307.25 an ounce.

Owning shares had certainly caught the public's imagination, and with the Government reaffirming its future privatisation plans, those who missed out on Telecom will be scrambling for a seat aboard the British Airways issue due to take-off in 1985.

In the 1984 Budget the Chancellor announced that from 6th April, 1985, bank interest paid to the majority of personal depositors will be taxed at source by the application of a Composite Rate of Tax (CRT) and effectively paid net of basic rate income tax.

National Westminster Bank PLC gives notice that as from 1st January, 1985, the rates of interest applicable to its Saver Service Accounts are as shown below.

Customers not affected by CRT		Customers affected by CRT	
Gross Interest		Net Interest	Gross equivalent to a basic rate taxpayer
10.00%	Investment Account - 6 Months' Notice	7.50%	10.71%
9.75%	Investment Account - 3 Months' Notice	7.375%	10.54%
8.50%	Mortgage Saver Account	7.00%	10.00%
8.25%	Bonus Saver Account	6.75%	9.64%
6.25%	7 Day Notice Deposit/Savings Accounts	4.75%	6.79%

9.25% Monthly Income Account*

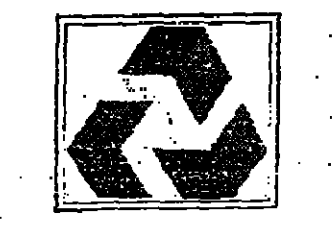
8.25% Piggy Bank/On Line Accounts*

* Interest will be paid on these accounts at gross rates before 6th April, 1985. Net and Gross Equivalent rates will be quoted thereafter.

Payments of interest made before 6th April, 1985 will normally be at the gross rates.

Information regarding the effects of the introduction of CRT will be circulated to affected account holders over the next few weeks. Our branch staff will be pleased to give you any further information you may require.

National Westminster Bank PLC
41 Lothbury London EC2P 2BP



Fifth Test—First Day

WESSELS REVEL AS AUSTRALIA'S LUCK CHANGES

By ALAN SHIELL in Sydney

RIDING a wave of good luck for the first time in the series Australia controlled the first day's play against the West Indies in the fifth Test at the Sydney Cricket Ground yesterday.

With Kepler Wessels leading the way with his fourth century in 17 Tests and the 32nd of his first-class career, Australia advanced to 235 for two off 77 overs, and must surely reach 300 for the first time in the series.

In front of a crowd of 26,000 just about everything went Australia's way for a change.

Allan Border won the toss and the West Indies seemed to bungle their team selection by omitting fast bowler Roger Harper instead of fast bowler Courtney Walsh. They then dropped two catches and missed a run-out in the first 36 minutes.

Much later Border, on seven at 208, was given the benefit of a decision off Viv Richards—which could easily have gone against him.

Rain threat

Weather permitting it rained again last night—the Australians must consolidate today and press on to a total of at least 400.

This would mean a real chance of finally exerting pressure on the West Indians, who will have to bat last on an unpredictable pitch.

Australia again made a bad start when fourth Test hero Andrew Hilditch was out in the first over, taking an awkward fall from Michael Holding's bowling and again after injury to wicket-keeper Jeff Dujon.

Then Wessels was fortunate not to be run out by the ball he faced, from Holding, whose throw missed the stumps. In Holding's previous over—his

£1,500 fine for Lawson

Geoff Lawson, the Australian pace bowler, has been fined £1,500 by team manager Bob Marriman on the eve of the fifth and final Test against the West Indies in Sydney.

Lawson must pay £400 immediately. Payments of £1,100 balance have been suspended until March 31, 1985.

The punishment was imposed following incidents during the fourth Test, which ended in Melbourne on Thursday.

Ocean Racing

INDIAN PACIFIC IN CONTENTION

Daring navigation through high seas and raging winds has put rich dividends for Indian Pacific, the Australian-built Farr 40 and the likely overall winner of the Sydney to Hobart yacht race.

The 12.5 metre yacht headed out to sea through 35ft waves and 50knot winds for 107 miles before turning on a steady tack to reach Hobart ahead of many bigger yachts.

Indian Pacific was able to race flat out and on one tack within 14 miles of the line honours winner New Zealand. Crew members said officials plotting the yacht's progress refused to believe it was doing so well and placed it 60 miles further back.

ANGELL EQUALS

ICICLE RECORD

Roger Angell, the Moths sailor, from Bournemouth, retained his title at the New Year Icicle Meeting, organised by the Royal Corinthian YC at Burnham yesterday.

In doing so, he equalled a record that has stood more than 20 years since Keith Muldoon won the title in 1961 and 1962. Angell won by almost five minutes on corrected time.

Angell's victory was a surprise, as he had never before won an international. He sailed by Roger Yeomans.

WINNERS—Gress 1, R. Yeomans (Gress), 1.12.10; 2, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.13.10; 3, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.14.10; 4, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.15.10; 5, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.16.10; 6, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.17.10; 7, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.18.10; 8, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.19.10; 9, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.20.10; 10, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.21.10; 11, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.22.10; 12, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.23.10; 13, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.24.10; 14, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.25.10; 15, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.26.10; 16, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.27.10; 17, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.28.10; 18, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.29.10; 19, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.30.10; 20, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.31.10; 21, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.32.10; 22, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.33.10; 23, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.34.10; 24, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.35.10; 25, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.36.10; 26, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.37.10; 27, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.38.10; 28, R. Yeomans (Yeomans), 1.39.10; 29, R. 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